



**NIICE**

NEPAL INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ENGAGEMENT



**NIICE**

**GLOBAL**

**CONCLAVE**

**25-27 JUNE 2021**

**CONFERENCE BOOKLET**

*Connecting Nepal to the World.*

# NIICE GLOBAL CONCLAVE

25-27 JUNE 2021

Conference Booklet



**NIICE**

---

NEPAL INSTITUTE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ENGAGEMENT

NIICE Global Conclave is the flagship event of Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement (NIICE). The theme of the three-day conference is *Connecting Nepal to the World*. The Global Conclave aims to bring the leaders, diplomats, business leaders and scholars from all around the globe. The objective of the conclave is to introduce Nepal to the world and at the same time update the Nepalese policy makers and experts about the fast-changing geopolitics, which will help Nepal reshape its foreign policy to achieve its national goal. NIICE Global Conclave is held every two years.

NIICE Global Conclave 2021 is hosting around 220 participants from 41 countries through 45 sessions. It will be streaming LIVE on NIICE Facebook page (@contactniice), Twitter (@contactniice) and will also be available on Youtube (NIICE Nepal). Any organization or individual is free to share the LIVE program or videos should refrain from editing it in order to mislead the statement or information.

NIICE is apolitical, independent and non-partisan think tank, hence, the views, thoughts, and opinions expressed during the Conclave belong solely to the speaker, and not necessarily to our organization.

**Please Note:**

1. The NIICE Global Conclave is an academic discussion. The chairs, moderators and panelists will speak in the open format without protocol precedence.
2. The profiles of speakers are arranged in order of appearance and the confirmation received. We have not followed any protocol, hierarchy or order.
3. Two hours session are of **90 min talk time** and 1 hour session is of **45 min** only. Since there is neck to neck session, the **chairs/ moderators will be requested to be very strict with time**.
4. Time conversion might have some errors. Kindly convert it as per your time zone. Nepal Time is correct and final.
5. Kindly **join the Zoom Room 15 min before** the scheduled time. If you need any assistance, please contact our Conference Center.

## **CONFERENCE CENTER**

**For Participants Only** (08:00- 23:30 hrs Nepal Time)

**WhatsApp or Direct Call:** +977-9840383300

**Email:** niice.kathmandu@gmail.com

**For Media and other Queries** (8:00-21:00 hrs Nepal Time)

**Nimesh Babu Oli (Media Associate)**

Email: mail@nimeshbabuoli.com.np

Whatsapp: +977-9852634042

**Pakhi Gauba (Outreach Associate)**

Email: pakhi2000.india@gmail.com

Whatsapp: +91-8107337363

## ZOOM DETAILS

SESSIONS	SESSIONS
<b>25 JUNE, DAY 1</b> 1. Inaugural 2. India's Neighbourhood First Policy 3. Art and Society 4. Future of QUAD and Maritime Cooperation in Indo-Pacific 5. Diplomat's Conclave - I 6. Structure of Global International Society in the Coming Decade 7. Future of Indo-Pacific Strategy 8. Gender in International Relations  <b>26 JUNE, DAY 2</b> 9. Nepal-China Relations 10. Rise of Asia 11. Changing Dimensions of India-Nepal Relations 12. Beyond Neighborhood 13. US Foreign Policy Under the Biden Administration 14. Post COVID-19 World Order 15. The US, China and the Future of Liberal International Order 16. Nepal's Political Instability: Breaking the Vicious Circle  <b>27 JUNE, DAY 3</b> 17. Indo-Pacific Affairs 18. India's Nepal Policy 19. China Caught in Geo-Political Rivalry 20. India-Nepal Relations 21. Emergence of India as a Global Power 22. Diplomat's Conclave - II 23. Indian Ocean and Maritime Security 24. Regional Security Framework in South Asia	<b>25 JUNE, DAY 1</b> A. Rise of China B. Gender, Peace and Development C. Nepal's Foreign Policy D. Impacts of the Pandemic on Transnational Migration E. China's Belt and Road Initiative F. Soft Power and Public Diplomacy G. Polarization and Looking to the 2022 US Elections  <b>26 JUNE, DAY 2</b> H. Enhancing Cooperation Between the BBIN Countries I. China's Foreign Policy J. Connectivity and Regional Integration in Asia K. Nuclear Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation L. Non-Traditional Security Issues M. Contemporary Migration Issues N. Future of American World Order  <b>27 JUNE, DAY 3</b> O. Foreign Direct Investment and Foreign Aid in Nepal P. India's Foreign Policy Q. Geopolitics of Small and Landlocked States R. Emerging Security Challenges in South Asia S. Revitalizing SAARC and BIMSTEC T. Preventing Extremism and Building Resilient Society
<b>MEETING ID</b>	<b>MEETING ID</b>
<b>841 5584 7064</b>	<b>841 5502 1101</b>
<b>PASSCODE</b>	<b>PASSCODE</b>
<b>niicenepal</b>	<b>niicenepal</b>

### Special Session:

**ASIANISM RETOLD: MEETING ID: 828 3349 5146    PASSCODE: niicenepal**



## **PARTNERS**

- Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, Washington DC, United States of America.
- Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore.
- Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India.
- School of Public Affairs, American University, Washington DC, United States of America.
- Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University, Shanghai, China.
- Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
- Institute of Asian Studies, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand.
- United Service Institution of India, New Delhi, India.
- National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi, India.
- Global South Studies Center, University of Cologne, Köln, Germany.
- South Asia Democratic Forum, Brussels, Belgium.
- Institute of Bay of Bengal Studies, Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, China.
- Institute of National Security Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka.
- Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies, Bucharest, Romania.
- Bharat Center of Canada, Toronto, Canada.
- Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- Center for Asia Leadership, Boston, USA and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

## **MEDIA PARTNERS**

- Khabarhub.com
- Radio Candid 92.7 MHz

**PROGRAM**  
**SCHEDULE**

Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

09:00-11:00 hrs KATHMANDU

12:15-14:15 hrs TOKYO

11:15-13:15 hrs BEIJING

04:15-06:15 hrs LONDON

08:45-10:45 hrs NEW DELHI

13:15-15:15 hrs SYDNEY

06:15-08:15 hrs MOSCOW

23:15-01:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC (-1 Day)

## SESSION 1

### Inaugural

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena, MP.** *Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka.*
- **Dr. Shashi Tharoor**, *Member of Indian Parliament (Lok Sabha), Former Minister of State for External Affairs and Former Under-Secretary General at the UN.*
- **Mr. Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu**, *Former Minister and Indian Emissary to the G20 & G7.*
- **Dr. Abdulla Rasheed Ahmed**, *Minister of State for Education, Maldives.*
- **Prof. Dr. Taniguchi Tomohiko**, *Professor, Keio University and Special Adviser to PM Shinzo Abe (retd.).*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 2

### India's Neighbourhood First Policy

**Chair: Prof. Dr. SD Muni**, *Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Former Indian Diplomat.*

- **Dr. Arvind Gupta**, *Director, Vivekananda International Foundation and Former National Security Advisor of India, **The Changing Neighborhood.***
- **Dr. TCA Raghavan**, *Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs and Former High Commissioner to Pakistan and Singapore, **Reimagining India in its Neighbourhood.***
- **Amb. Manjeev Singh Puri**, *India's Former Ambassador to Nepal.*
- **Prof. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Bhardwaj**, *Professor, Centre for South Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*
- **Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik**, *Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, **The Ethno-Cultural underpinnings of India's Neighborhood First Policy.***
- **Dr. Uttam K Sinha**, *Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, **Hydro-Diplomacy in South Asia.***

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION A

### Rise of China

**Chair: Dr. Ritu Agarwal**, *Associate Professor, Center for East Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Amb. Dato Abdul Majid Ahmad Khan**, *Former Chairman, Malaysian Investment Development Authority and Former Malaysian Ambassador to China.*
- **Prof. Zhang Jiadong**, *Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University.*
- **Prof. Dr. BR Deepak**, *Chairperson, Centre for Chinese & South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, **China's Rise: Opportunities and Challenges for the South Asia.***
- **Dr. Jagannath P. Panda**, *Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.*
- **Dr. Lou Chunhao**, *Deputy Director, Institute of South Asian Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

13:00-14:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-17:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-16:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-09:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-13:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-18:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-11:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-04:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 3

### Art and Society

**Moderator: Shivane Thapa Basnyat**, *Senior News Editor, Nepal Television*

- **Rajesh Hamal**, *Mahanayak of Nepali Cinema.*
- **Manoj Gajurel**, *Political Satirist, Dynamics of Political Satire with Changing Geopolitics.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

13:00-14:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-17:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-16:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-09:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-13:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-18:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-11:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-04:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION B

### Gender, Peace and Development

**Chair: Dr. Swati Parashar**, *Associate Professor, School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg.*

- **Prof. Dr. Laura J. Shepherd**, *Australian Research Council Future Fellow and Professor of International Relations, Sydney University.*
- **Dr. Punam Yadav**, *Co-director, Centre for Gender and Disaster, University London College.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal





Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

14:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU

17:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO

16:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING

09:15-11:15 hrs LONDON

13:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI

18:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY

11:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW

04:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 4

### Future of QUAD and Maritime Cooperation in Indo-Pacific

**Chair:** Maj. Gen. RPS Bhadauria, *United Service Institution of India.*

- **Admiral Koda Yoji**, *Former Vice Admiral of Japan Maritime Self Defense Force.*
- **Dr. John Lee**, *Senior Advisor to Former Australian Foreign Minister and Senior Fellow (Non-Resident), Hudson Institute.*
- **Captain Sarabjeet Singh Parmar**, *Executive Director, National Maritime Foundation.*
- **Michael Shoebridge**, *Director, Defence, Strategy & National Security, Australian Strategic Policy Institute.*
- **Dr. Liselotte Odgaard**, *Senior Fellow, Hudson Institute, **Europe's Role in the Indo-Pacific.***

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

14:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU

17:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO

16:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING

09:15-11:15 hrs LONDON

13:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI

18:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY

11:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW

04:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION C

### Nepal's Foreign Policy

**Moderator: Sama Thapa**, Associate Editor, AP1 Television.

- **Amb. Gyan Chandra Acharya**, Former Foreign Secretary of Nepal and UN Under Secretary General and High Representative for LDC.
- **Amb. Dr. Dinesh Bhattarai**, Former Foreign Policy Advisor to Prime Minister and Former Nepal's Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations.
- **Amb. Madan Kumar Bhattarai**, President's Foreign Policy Adviser, Ambassador to Germany and Japan and Former Foreign Secretary of Nepal.
- **Prof. Dr. Anjoo Sharan Upadhyaya**, Professor, Banaras Hindu University.
- **Prof. Zhang Shubin**, Director, Nepal Study Center, Hebei University of Economics and Business.

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

16:00-17:00 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-20:15 hrs TOKYO

18:15-19:15 hrs BEIJING

11:15-12:15 hrs LONDON

15:45-16:45 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-21:15 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-14:15 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-07:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 5

### Diplomat's Conclave - I

**Moderator:** Dr. Pramod Jaiswal, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement*

- **Amb. Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury**, *Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Nepal.*
- **Amb. Udaya Raj Pandey**, *Nepalese Ambassador to Malaysia.*
- **Amb. Ganesh Prasad Dhakal**, *Nepalese Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand.*
- **Amb. Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada**, *Nepalese Ambassador to the United States of America.*
- **Amb. Dr. Anjan Shakya**, *Nepalese Ambassador to Israel.*
- **Amb. Nilamber Acharya**, *Nepalese Ambassador to India.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



**Day 1**

**25 JUNE 2021**

**16:00-17:00 hrs KATHMANDU**

**19:15-20:15 hrs TOKYO**

**18:15-19:15 hrs BEIJING**

**11:15-12:15 hrs LONDON**

**15:45-16:45 hrs NEW DELHI**

**20:15-21:15 hrs SYDNEY**

**13:15-14:15 hrs MOSCOW**

**06:15-07:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION D**

### **Impacts of the Pandemic on Transnational Migration**

**Chairs: Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican & Dr. Amrita Datta, *University of Cologne.***

- **Dr. Jonathan Ngeh**, *Visiting Scholar and Principal Investigator, Global South Studies Centre, University of Cologne.*
- **Prof. Dr. Habibul Khondker**, *Professor of Sociology, Zayed University, UAE.*
- **Dr. Ratna Mani Nepal**, *Lecturer of Rural Development, Tribhuvan University.*

#### *Discussants*

- **Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican**, *Professor, Department of Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Cologne.*
- **Dr. Amrita Datta**, *Researcher on Transnational Migration, Global South Studies Centre, University of Cologne.*

*Supported by: Global South Studies Centre, University of Cologne.*

**ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101**

**PW: niicenepal**



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

17:00-18:00 hrs KATHMANDU

20:15-21:15 hrs TOKYO

19:15-20:15 hrs BEIJING

12:15-13:15 hrs LONDON

16:45-17:45 hrs NEW DELHI

21:15-22:15 hrs SYDNEY

14:15-15:15 hrs MOSCOW

07:15-08:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 6

### Structure of Global International Society in the Coming Decade

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement*

- **Professor Barry Buzan**, *Emeritus Professor, Department of International Relations, London School of Economics and Political Science*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

17:00-19:00 hrs KATHMANDU

20:15-22:15 hrs TOKYO

19:15-21:15 hrs BEIJING

12:15-14:15 hrs LONDON

16:45-18:45 hrs NEW DELHI

21:15-23:15 hrs SYDNEY

14:15-16:15 hrs MOSCOW

07:15-09:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION E

### China's Belt and Road Initiative

**Chair: Prof. BR Deepak**, *Chairperson, Centre for Chinese & South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Dr. Siegfried O Wolf**, *Director of Research at the South Asia Democratic Forum, CPEC and China-Pakistan Relations.*
- **Prof. Dr. Wang Yiwei**, *Jean Monnet Chair Professor, Director of the Institute of International Affairs, and Director of the Center for European Studies, Renmin University.*
- **Dr. Gulbin Sultana**, *Research Analyst, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.*
- **Dr. Maria Adele Carrai**, *Assistant Professor, New York University Shanghai.*
- **Prof. Dr. Minhas Majeed Khan**, *Professor, Department of International Relations, University of Peshawar.*
- **Choodamani Bhattarai**, *Editor in Chief at Dcnepal, Security Challenges of Smaller Nations in South Asia amid China's BRI.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

18:00-20:00 hrs KATHMANDU

21:15-23:15 hrs TOKYO

20:15-22:15 hrs BEIJING

13:15-15:15 hrs LONDON

17:45-19:45 hrs NEW DELHI

22:15-00:15 hrs SYDNEY

15:15-17:15 hrs MOSCOW

08:15-10:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 7

### Future of Indo-Pacific Strategy

**Chair: Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan (Retd),** *Director General, National Maritime Foundation and Former Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command, Indian Navy.*

- **Dr. Satu Limaye,** *Vice President and Director, East-West Center in Washington, Continuities and Change in US Indo-Pacific Relations.*
- **Dr. Deepa M. Ollapally,** *Research Professor and Associate Director, Sigur Center for Asian Studies, George Washington University.*
- **Abhijit Singh,** *Head, Maritime Policy Initiative, Observer Research Foundation.*
- **Dr. Amit Gupta,** *Associate Professor, Department of International Security Studies, USAF Air War College, Some Workable Avenues for the QUAD.*
- **Dr. Aparna Pande,** *Director, Initiative on the Future of India and South Asia, Hudson Institute.*
- **Prof. Jeffrey S Payne,** *Manager of Academic Affairs, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

19:00-20:15 hrs KATHMANDU

22:15-23:30 hrs TOKYO

21:15-22:30 hrs BEIJING

14:15-15:30 hrs LONDON

18:45-20:00 hrs NEW DELHI

23:15-00:30 hrs SYDNEY

16:15-17:30 hrs MOSCOW

09:15-10:30 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION F

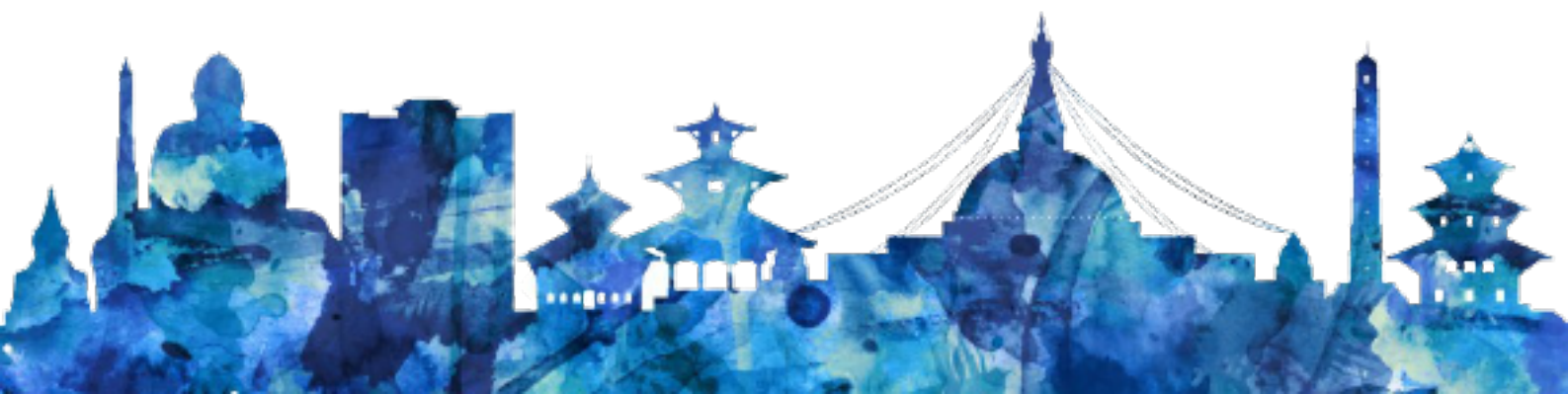
### Soft Power and Public Diplomacy

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Agnieszka Kuszewska**, *Professor, Institute of the Middle and Far East, Jagiellonian University.*

- **Amb. Dinesh K Patnaik**, *Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations*
- **Amb. (p) Gheorghe Savuica**, *President, Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies, ASEAN: From Model of Regional Development to Indo-Pacific Soft Power Projection.*
- **Prof. Dr. Stanley Rosen**, *Professor of Political Science, University of Southern California, US-China Competition in Promoting Soft Power through Film.*
- **Dr. Lila Nyaichyai**, *Assistant Professor, Tribhuvan University, Chinese Soft Power through Academia.*
- **Viktoriia Ivanchenko**, *Russian International Affairs Council Expert and Visiting Fellow, NIICE, Russian Soft Power in the Post-Soviet Space.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 1

25 JUNE 2021

20:00-21:00 hrs KATHMANDU

23:15-00:15hrs TOKYO

22:15-23:15 hrs BEIJING

15:15-16:15 hrs LONDON

19:45-20:45 hrs NEW DELHI

00:15-01:15 hrs SYDNEY (+1 Day)

17:15-18:15 hrs MOSCOW

10:15-11:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 8

### Gender in International Relations

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Anuradha Chenoy**, *Former Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Prof. Dr. J. Ann Tickner**, *Professor Emerita, University of Southern California and Distinguished Scholar, in Residence, School of International Service, American University, **The Impact that Feminist Gender Approaches to IR has made on Theorizing about International Politics?***
- **Prof. Dr. Cynthia Enloe**, *Research Professor, Department of International Development, Community, and Environment, Women's and Gender Studies, Department of Political Science, Clark University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Laura Sjoberg**, *Professor, School of International Relations, University of Florida.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





**Day 1**

**25 JUNE 2021**

**20:15-21:15 hrs KATHMANDU**

**23:30-00:30 hrs TOKYO**

**22:30-23:30 hrs BEIJING**

**15:30-16:30 hrs LONDON**

**20:00-21:00 hrs NEW DELHI**

**00:30-01:30 hrs SYDNEY (+1 Day)**

**17:30-18:30 hrs MOSCOW**

**10:30-11:30 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION G**

### **Polarization and Looking to the 2022 US Elections**

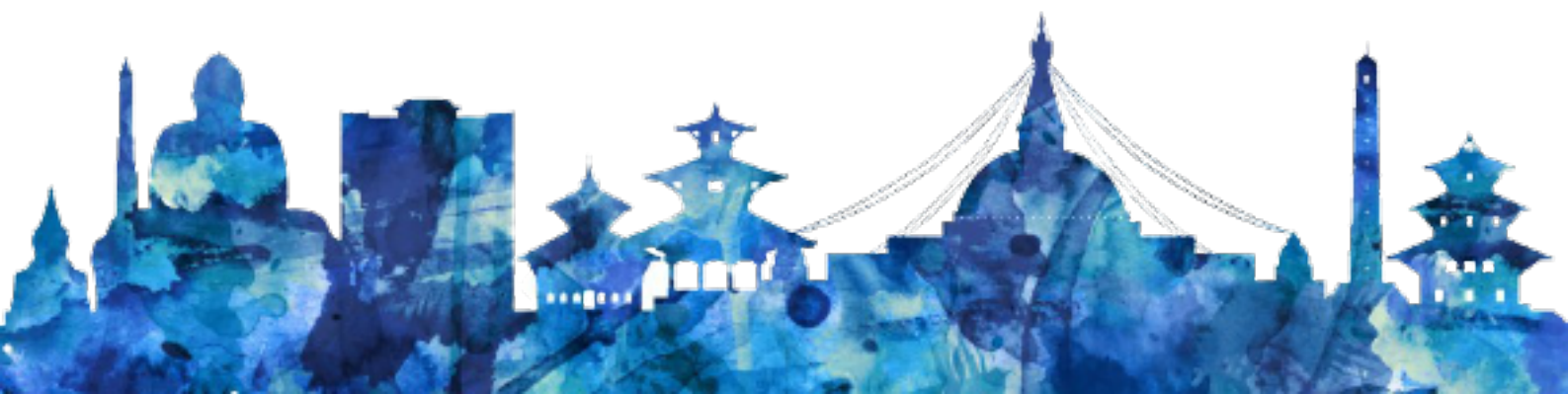
**Chair: Prof. Dr. David Lublin**, *Chair, Department of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University.*

- **Prof. Dr. David Lublin**, *Chair, Department of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University.*
- **Prof. Dr. David Barker**, *Director, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, School of Public Affairs, American University.*

*Supported by: Department of Government, American University.*

**ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101**

**PW: niicenepal**



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

09:00-11:00 hrs KATHMANDU

12:15-14:15 hrs TOKYO

11:15-13:15 hrs BEIJING

04:15-06:15 hrs LONDON

08:45-10:45 hrs NEW DELHI

13:15-15:15 hrs SYDNEY

06:15-08:15 hrs MOSCOW

23:15-01:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC (-1 Day)

## SESSION 9

### Nepal-China Relations

**Chair:** Amb. Dr. Mahesh Maskey, *Former Nepalese Ambassador to China.*

- **Amb. Leela Mani Paudyal**, *Former Chief Secretary and Nepalese Ambassador to China.*
- **Prof. Dr. Li Tao**, *Executive Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, Sichuan University, China-Nepal Cooperation against COVID-19 in the Context of Rampant Pandemic in South Asia.*
- **Prof. Dr. Dai Yonghong**, *Director, Institute of Bay of Bengal Studies, Shenzhen University.*
- **Dr. Rupak Sapkota**, *Deputy Director, Institute of Foreign Affairs.*
- **Prof. Dr. Khadga KC**, *Professor, Tribhuvan University.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

09:00-11:00 hrs KATHMANDU

12:15-14:15 hrs TOKYO

11:15-13:15 hrs BEIJING

04:15-06:15 hrs LONDON

08:45-10:45 hrs NEW DELHI

13:15-15:15 hrs SYDNEY

06:15-08:15 hrs MOSCOW

23:15-01:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC (-1 Day)

## SESSION H

### Enhancing Cooperation Between the BBIN Countries

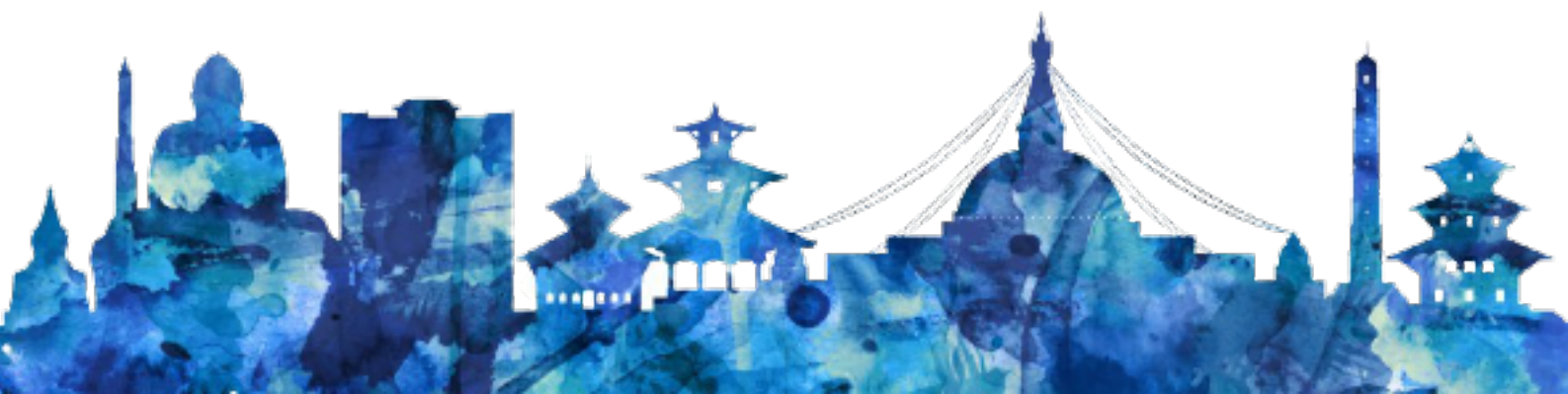
**Chair:** Lt. Gen. GS Katoch, *United Service Institution of India.*

- **Lt. Gen. KJ Singh (Retd),** *Former Indian Army Commander.*
- **Amb. Farooq Sobhan,** *Former Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh.*
- **Maj Gen Binoj Basnyat (Retd),** *Strategic Analyst, South Asian Affairs.*
- **Maj. Gen AKM Abdur Rahman (Retd),** *Former Director General, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies.*
- **Lobzang Dorji,** *Associate Lecturer, Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan.*

*Supported by: United Service Institution of India.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 10

### Rise of Asia

**Chair: Amb. Gyan Chandra Acharya**, *Former Foreign Secretary of Nepal and UN Under Secretary General and High Representative for LDC.*

- **Prof. Dr. SD Muni**, *Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Former Indian Diplomat.*
- **Amb. Shivshankar Menon**, *Former National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary of India.*
- **Prof. Dr. C. Raja Mohan**, *Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore.*
- **Amb. Tomasz Lukaszuk**, *Former Polish Diplomat and Faculty, University of Warsaw University, **Realism vs Neoliberal Institutional in Asian security Architecture - Indo-Pacific and ASEAN.***
- **Dr. Rajeswari (Raji) Pillai Rajagopalan**, *Director, Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology, Observer Research Foundation.*
- **Dr. Stephen R Nagy**, *Senior Associate Professor, Department of Politics and International Studies, International Christian University, **Rising Asia: Opportunities and Challenges that will Shape the Region's Evolution.***

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION I

### China's Foreign Policy

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Zhang Jiadong**, *Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University.*

- **Amb. Gautam Bambawale**, *Former Indian Ambassador to China, Bhutan and Pakistan, China and South Asia.*
- **Dr. Nian Peng**, *Deputy Director, National Institute for South China Sea Studies.*
- **Dr. Peter T. C. Chang**, *Deputy Director, Institute of China Studies, Malaya University.*
- **Dr. Mher Sahakyan**, *Director, China-Eurasia Council for Political and Strategic Research, China's Relations with Turkey and Iran in the Era of Changing World Order.*
- **Dr. Nicușor-Sever-Cosmin Florea**, *Director of Programs, Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies.*
- **Dr. Ruben Elamiryan**, *Department of World Politics and International Relations, Russian-Armenian University, The Return of Geopolitics: Eastern Partnership Countries between the European Union and China.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

13:00-14:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-17:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-16:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-09:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-13:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-18:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-11:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-04:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 11

### Changing Dimensions of India-Nepal Relations

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Feroze Varun Gandhi**, *Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Pilibhit and Former National General Secretary of Bharatiya Janata Party.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

13:00-14:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-17:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-16:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-09:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-13:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-18:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-11:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-04:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION J

### Connectivity and Regional Integration in Asia

**Chair: Amb. Dr. Shambhu Ram Simkhada**, *Former Diplomat and Member, National Defence University*

- **Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti**, *Executive Chairperson, Policy Research Institute.*
- **Prof. Dr. Agnieszka Kuszewska**, *Professor, Institute of the Middle and Far East, Jagiellonian University, **South Asia-Central Asia Connectivity: Prospects and Challenges.***
- **Riya Sinha**, *Research Associate, Centre for Social and Economic Progress*
- **Dr. Irina Ionela Pop**, *Director and Senior Research Fellow, Asia-Pacific Programme, Center for Geopolitics and Security in Realism Studies.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

14:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU

17:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO

16:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING

09:15-11:15 hrs LONDON

13:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI

18:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY

11:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW

04:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 12

### Beyond Neighborhood

**Chair: Captain Alok Bansal**, *Director, India Foundation.*

- **Dr. Mirwais Balkhi**, *Former Minister of Education, Afghanistan, Diplomat and Visiting Fellow, NIICE, **The Role of Qatar in Afghanistan Peace Process: Leverages and Challenges.***
- **Prof. Dr. Victoria V. Panova**, *Vice-President, International Relations, Far Eastern Federal University.*
- **Dr. Dan Schueftan**, *Director, National Security Studies Center, University of Haifa and Senior Lecturer, Israel Defense Forces National Defense College.*
- **Dr. Vishal Chandra**, *Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.*
- **Dr. Anna A. Velikaya**, *Lecturer, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration, **Russian Public Diplomacy in Central Asia.***

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

14:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU

17:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO

16:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING

09:15-11:15 hrs LONDON

13:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI

18:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY

11:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW

04:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION K

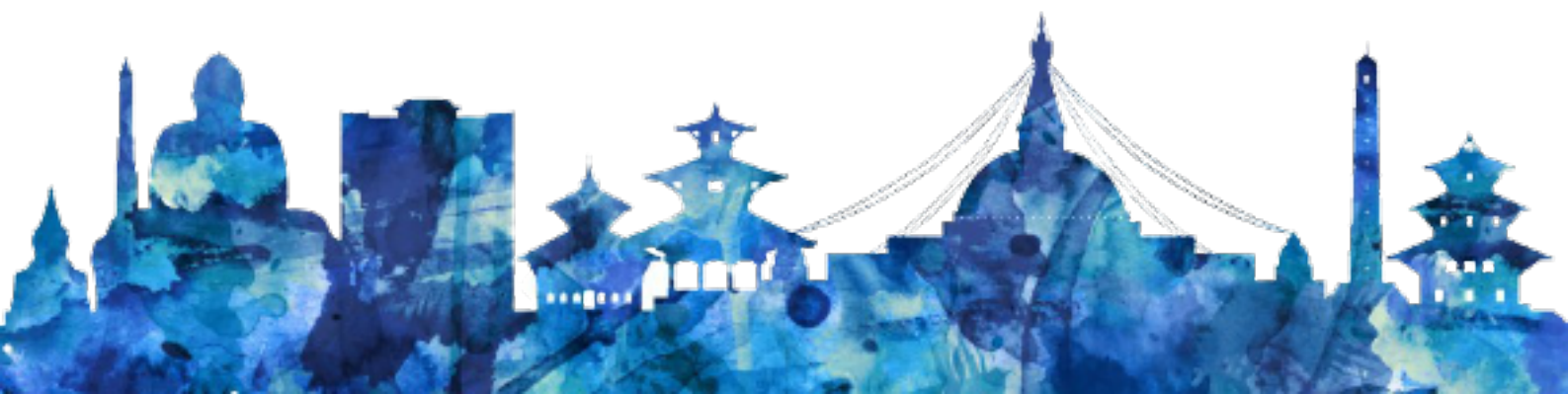
### Nuclear Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation

**Chair: Dr. Manpreet Sethi**, *Distinguished Fellow and Head, Nuclear Security Project, Centre for Air Power Studies.*

- **Amb. Marc Finaud**, *Head of Arms Proliferation and Diplomatic Tradecraft, Geneva Center for Security Policy.*
- **Prof. Dr. Swaran Singh**, *Chairperson, Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*
- **Dr. Han Hua**, *School of International Studies, Peking University.*
- **Dr. Frank O'Donnell**, *Non-Resident Fellow, Stimson Center.*
- **Dr. Sannia Abdullah Close**, *Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University.*
- **Dr. Sitakanta Mishra**, *Associate Professor, School of Liberal Studies, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

16:00-18:00 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-21:15 hrs TOKYO

18:15-20:15 hrs BEIJING

11:15-13:15 hrs LONDON

15:45-17:45 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-22:15 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-15:15 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-08:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 13

### US Foreign Policy Under the Biden Administration

**Chair: Amb. Dr. Arjun Karki**, *Former Nepalese Ambassador to the United States of America.*

- **Prof. Dr. Peter Trubowitz**, *Professor, Department of International Relations and Director of the Phelan US Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science.*
- **Amb. Vishnu Prakash**, *Former Indian Diplomat.*
- **Dr. Amit Gupta**, *Associate Professor, Department of International Security Studies, USAF Air War College, **Challenge, Compete, Cooperate: A Biden foreign policy towards China.***
- **Dr. Xiaoyu Pu**, *Associate Professor, Department of Political, University of Nevada.*
- **Prof. David Lublin**, *Chair, Department of Government, School of Public Affairs, American University.*
- **Dr. Asuka Matsumoto**, *Assistant Professor, Department of Policy Studies, Doshisha University, **The Biden Administration's Foreign Policy towards Asia: Among Multilateralism and Middle Class Diplomacy.***
- **Dr. Andrés Serbin**, *Executive President, Regional Coordinator of Economic and Social Research (Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales).*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

16:00-18:00 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-21:15 hrs TOKYO

18:15-20:15 hrs BEIJING

11:15-13:15 hrs LONDON

15:45-17:45 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-22:15 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-15:15 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-08:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION L

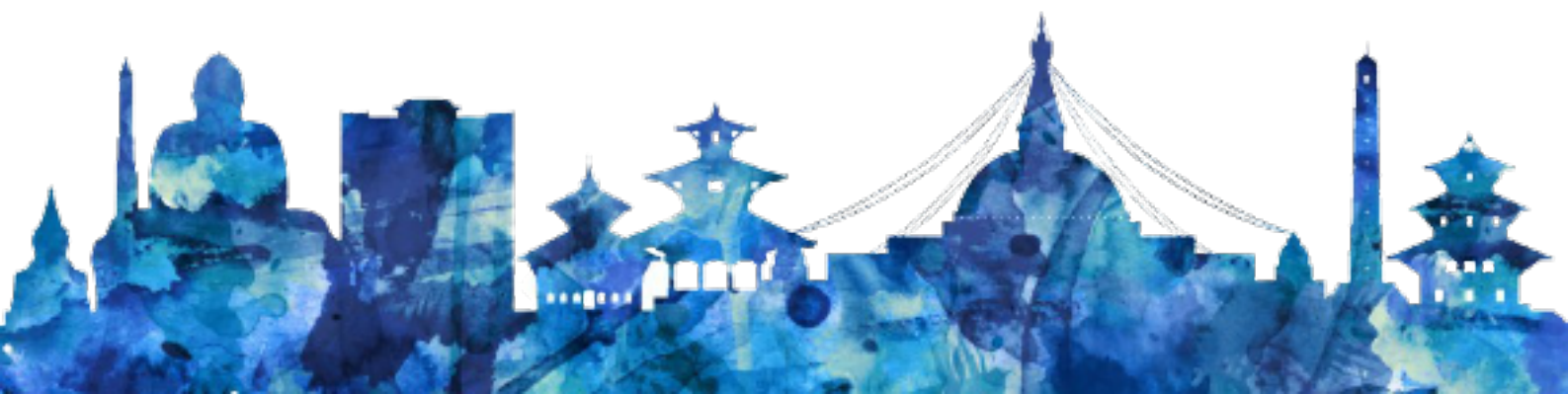
### Non-Traditional Security Issues

**Chair: Dr. Jirayudh Sinthuphan**, *Director of South Asia Research Center and a Lecturer in Communication Arts at Chulalongkorn University.*

- **Dr. Jyoti M Pathania**, *Senior Fellow, Centre for Land Warfare Studies.*
- **Dr. Medha Bisht**, *Senior Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations, South Asian University.*
- **Dr. Aslam Khan**, *Associate Professor, Mahatma Gandhi Central University.*
- **Dr. Chandra Lal Pandey**, *Program Coordinator, Community Development Program, Kathmandu University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Nivedita Das Kundu**, *President, Bharat Centre of Canada and Faculty, York University, E-Learning in Educational Institutions during and Post COVID-19 Periods.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

18:00-20:00 hrs KATHMANDU

21:15-23:15 hrs TOKYO

20:15-22:15 hrs BEIJING

13:15-15:15 hrs LONDON

17:45-19:45 hrs NEW DELHI

22:15-00:15 hrs SYDNEY

15:15-17:15 hrs MOSCOW

08:15-10:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 14

### Post COVID-19 World Order

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Rajesh Rajagopalan**, *Centre for International Politics, Organisation & Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*

- **Prof. Dr. Anuradha Chenoy**, *Former Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*
- **Prof. Shen Dingli**, *Institute for International Studies, Fudan University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Harsh V Pant**, *Professor, King's College London and Director, Studies and Head of the Strategic Studies Programme, Observer Research Foundation.*
- **Dr. Zeno Leoni**, *Teaching Fellow, Defense Studies Department, Defence Academy UK, King's College London, **The Blowback of American Grand Strategy and a New Type of Cold War between the US and China.***
- **Dr. Mehmet Ozkan**, *Executive Director, Maarif Foundation USA.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

18:00-20:00 hrs KATHMANDU

21:15-23:15 hrs TOKYO

20:15-22:15 hrs BEIJING

13:15-15:15 hrs LONDON

17:45-19:45 hrs NEW DELHI

22:15-00:15 hrs SYDNEY

15:15-17:15 hrs MOSCOW

08:15-10:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION M

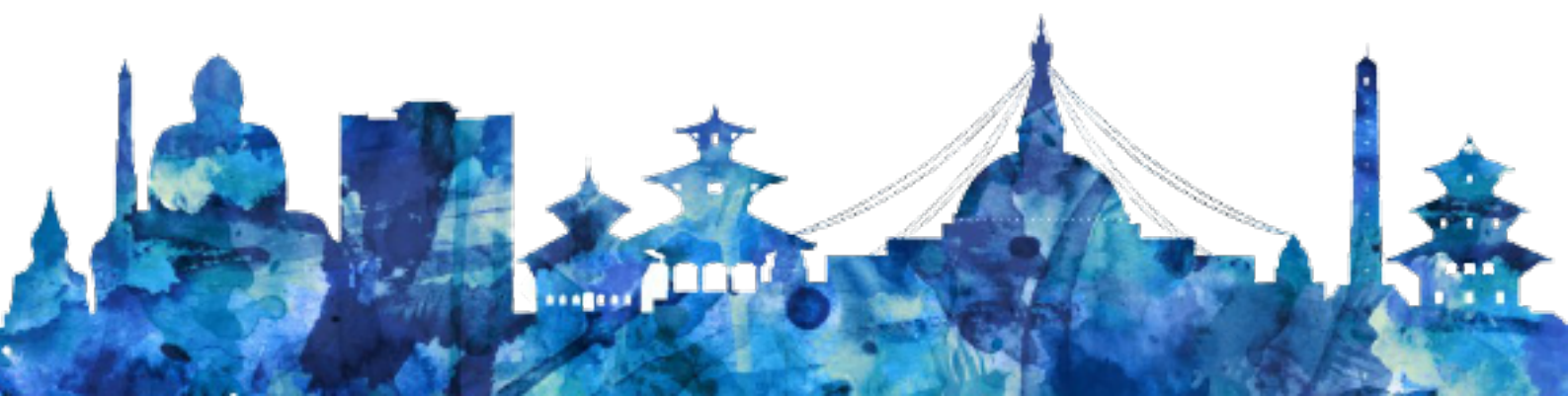
### Contemporary Migration Issues

**Moderator: Kabita Parajuli**, *Lawyer and Former Clean Slate Program Fellow, Harvard Law School's Labor and Worklife Program*

- **Prof. Dr. Lakshman Dissanayake**, *Emeritus Professor and former VC, University of Colombo*, ***Reintegration of Labour Migrant Returnees in South Asian Countries: An Exploratory Analysis.***
- **Prof. Dr. Rodolfo Casillas R.**, *Professor, Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Flacso), Mexico*, ***The Migratory Policy of Mexico as a Transit Country. An Overview.***
- **Dr. S. Irudaya Rajan**, *Chairman, International Institute of Migration and Development*, ***Return Migration to India: What Next?***
- **Prof. Dr. Rajai 'Ray' Jureidini**, *Professor, College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Nepal-Qatar Migrant Labour Corridor.*
- **Prof. Dr. Parvati Nair**, *Professor of Hispanic, Cultural and Migration Studies, Queen Mary University of London*, ***Internal Migration, Pandemic and Civil Society in India.***
- **Hari KC**, *Wilfrid Laurier University*, ***Labour Migration along the South Asia-GCC Corridor***

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

20:00-21:00 hrs KATHMANDU

23:15-00:15hrs TOKYO

22:15-23:15 hrs BEIJING

15:15-16:15 hrs LONDON

19:45-20:45 hrs NEW DELHI

00:15-01:15 hrs SYDNEY

17:15-18:15 hrs MOSCOW

10:15-11:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 15

### The US, China and the Future of Liberal International Order

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement*

- **Prof. Dr. G. John Ikenberry**, *Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs, Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

20:00-22:00 hrs KATHMANDU

23:15-01:15 hrs TOKYO

22:15-00:15 hrs BEIJING

15:15-17:15 hrs LONDON

19:45-21:45 hrs NEW DELHI

00:15-02:15 hrs SYDNEY (+ 1 Day)

17:15-19:15 hrs MOSCOW

10:15-12:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION N

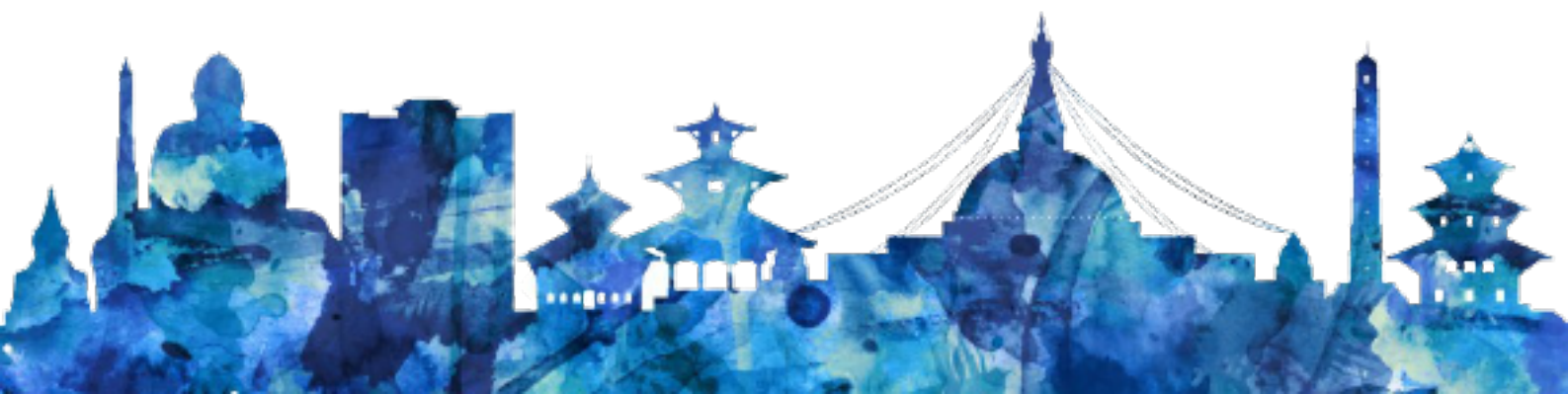
### Future of American World Order

**Chair: Dr. Amit Gupta**, *Associate Professor, Department of International Security Studies, USAF Air War College.*

- **Prof. Dr. Sumit Ganguly**, *Distinguished Professor, Department of Political Science, Indiana University Bloomington.*
- **Paul J. Saunders**, *Former Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs and Senior Fellow, Center for the National Interest.*
- **Prof. Dr. Tashihiro Nakayama**, *Professor, Keio University.*
- **Dr. Namrata Goswami**, *Subject Matter Expert, Futures Lab.*
- **Prof. Dr. Glenn Diesen**, *Professor, University of South-Eastern Norway.*
- **Dr. Ariel Gonzalez Levaggi**, *Associate Professor, Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina,*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 2

26 JUNE 2021

21:00-22:00 hrs KATHMANDU

00:15-01:15 hrs TOKYO

23:15-00:15 hrs BEIJING

16:15-17:15 hrs LONDON

20:45-21:45 hrs NEW DELHI

01:15-02:15 hrs SYDNEY (+1 Day)

18:15-19:15 hrs MOSCOW

11:15-12:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 16

### Nepal's Political Instability: Breaking the Vicious Circle

**Chair: Dr. Prakash Bhattarai**, *Director, Centre for Social Change.*

- **Prof. Dr. Ganga Bahadur Thapa**, *Tribhuvan University*
- **Rakesh Mishra**, *Executive Director, North South Collectives.*
- **Prof. Dr. Krishna Hachhethu**, *Tribhuvan University*
- **Dr. Savitri Thapa Gurung**, *Tribhuvan University and Former Member of Commission for Investigation of Abuse of Authority.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

09:00-11:00 hrs KATHMANDU

12:15-14:15 hrs TOKYO

11:15-13:15 hrs BEIJING

04:15-06:15 hrs LONDON

08:45-10:45 hrs NEW DELHI

13:15-15:15 hrs SYDNEY

06:15-08:15 hrs MOSCOW

23:15-01:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC (-1 Day)

## SESSION 17

### Indo-Pacific Affairs

**Chair: Dr. Happymon Jacob**, *Associate Professor, Centre for International Politics, Organisation & Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Prof. Dr. John Blaxland**, *Professor of International Security and Intelligence Studies, Australian National University, **An Australian Outlook to the Indo-Pacific.***
- **Prof. Dr. Yoichiro Sato**, *Dean, College of Asian Pacific Studies, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University.*
- **Dr. Ernest Gunasekara-Rockwell**, *Editor in Chief of Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs and Director of Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers.*
- **Cleo Paskal**, *Associate Fellow, Chatham House.*
- **Dr. Satoru Nagao**, *Non-Resident Fellow, Hudson Institute.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

09:00-11:00 hrs KATHMANDU

12:15-14:15 hrs TOKYO

11:15-13:15 hrs BEIJING

04:15-06:15 hrs LONDON

08:45-10:45 hrs NEW DELHI

13:15-15:15 hrs SYDNEY

06:15-08:15 hrs MOSCOW

23:15-01:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC (-1 Day)

## SESSION O

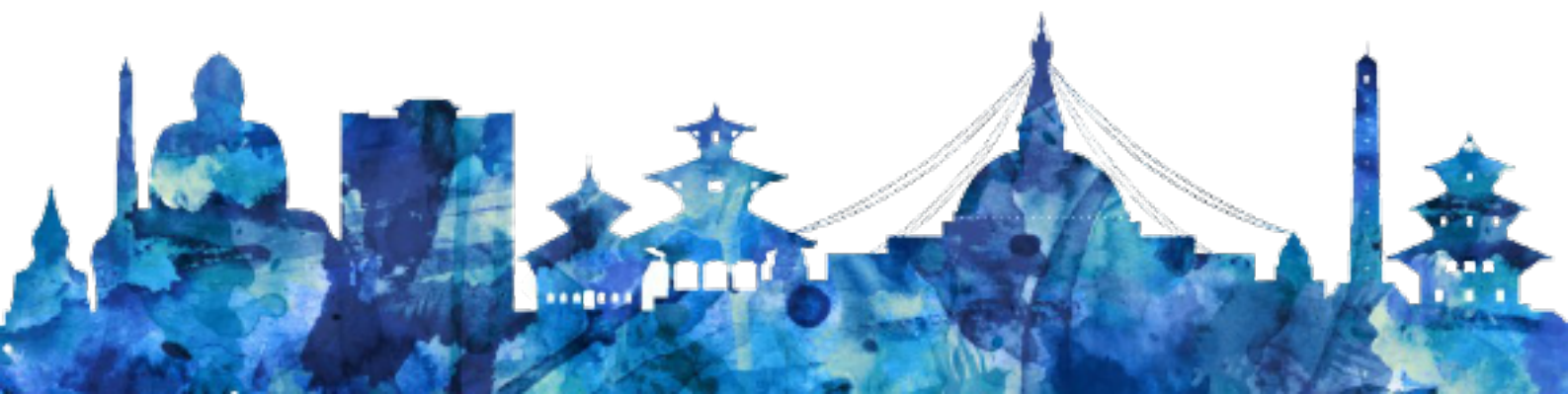
### Foreign Direct Investment and Foreign Aid in Nepal

**Moderator: Atul K Thakur**, *Nodal Coordinator, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI & Visiting Fellow, NIICE.*

- **Sushil Bhatta**, *CEO, Investment Board of Nepal.*
- **Amb. Prof. Bishwambher Pyakuryal**, *Former Nepalese Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives.*
- **Yumiko Asakuma**, *Chief Representative, Japan International Cooperation Agency, Nepal Office.*
- **Ram Prasad Subedi**, *Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Nepal in India.*
- **Dr. Manish Thapa**, *Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw.*
- **Dr. Chandan Sapkota**, *Economist.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 18

### India's Nepal Policy

**Chair: Dr. Amit Ranjan**, *Research Fellow, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore.*

- **Amb. Rakesh Sood**, *Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation and Former Indian Ambassador to Nepal*, ***History of India-Nepal Relations.***
- **Prof. Dr. Sangeeta Thapliyal**, *Professor, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*, ***Contemporary issues between India and Nepal.***
- **Dr. Constantino Xavier**, *Fellow, Centre for Social and Economic Progress*, ***India-Nepal Connectivity.***
- **Dr. Avinash Anil Godbole**, *Associate Professor and Assistant Dean, Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, OP Jindal Global University*, ***China and India-Nepal Relations.***

*Supported by: Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

11:00-13:00 hrs KATHMANDU

14:15-16:15 hrs TOKYO

13:15-15:15 hrs BEIJING

06:15-08:15 hrs LONDON

10:45-12:45 hrs NEW DELHI

15:15-17:15 hrs SYDNEY

08:15-10:15 hrs MOSCOW

01:15-03:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION P

### India's Foreign Policy

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Swaran Singh**, *Chairperson, Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Prof. Dr. Rajesh Rajagopalan**, *Professor, Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*
- **Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh**, *Deputy Director General, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Science.*
- **Dr. Happymon Jacob**, *Associate Professor, Centre for International Politics, Organisation and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*
- **Dr. Sreeradha Datta**, *Senior Fellow, Vivekananda International Foundation, **India and its Neighborhood.***
- **Dr. Nicolas Blarel**, *Associate Professor and Director of Studies at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal





Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

13:00-15:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-18:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-17:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-10:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-14:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-19:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-12:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-05:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 19

### China Caught in Geo-Political Rivalry

**Chair: Dr. Jagannath P. Panda**, *Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses.*

- **Amb. Nalin Surie**, *Distinguished Fellow, Delhi Policy Group and Former Indian Ambassador to China, Poland and the UK, **China and the Creation of Geo-political Rivalry in South Asia.***
- **Dr. Thanh Hai Do**, *DCM, Vietnam Embassy in New Delhi.*
- **Dr. Niklas Swanstrom**, *Director, Institute of Security and Development Policy and Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute of the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies.*
- **Dr. Ngeow Chow-Bing**, *Director, Institute of China Studies, Malaya University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Goran Ilik**, *Dean, Faculty of Law, University in Bitola, **An End to European Naïveté?: The EU Coherence and the Challenges of Chinese Global Neo-Functionalism.***
- **Dr. Rommel Banlaoi**, *President of Philippine Association for Chinese Studies.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

13:00-14:00 hrs KATHMANDU

16:15-17:15 hrs TOKYO

15:15-16:15 hrs BEIJING

08:15-09:15 hrs LONDON

12:45-13:45 hrs NEW DELHI

17:15-18:15 hrs SYDNEY

10:15-11:15 hrs MOSCOW

03:15-04:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION Q

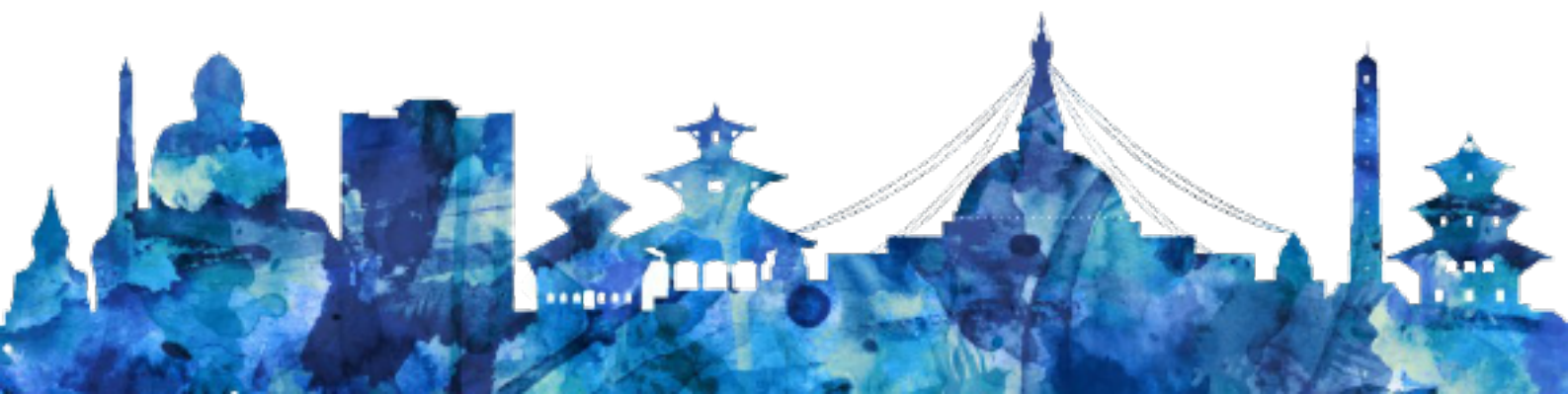
### Geopolitics of Small and Landlocked States

**Chair: Prof. Dr. Sharad K. Soni**, *Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

- **Dr. Stuti Bhatnagar**, *University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia.*
- **Dr. Zahid Shahab Ahmed**, *Research Fellow, Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization, Deakin University.*
- **Mari-Liis Sulg**, *Program Manager, Estonian School of Diplomacy, **Geopolitics of Small States.***
- **Dr. Suman Acharya**, *Assistant Director, Nepal Rastra Bank.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



**Day 3**

**27 JUNE 2021**

**15:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU**

**18:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO**

**17:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING**

**10:15-11:15 hrs LONDON**

**14:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI**

**19:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY**

**12:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW**

**05:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION 20**

### **India-Nepal Relations**

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale**, *In-Charge, Foreign Affairs Department, Bharatiya Janata Party*

**ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064**

**PW: niicenepal**



**Day 3**

**27 JUNE 2021**

**14:00-16:00 hrs KATHMANDU**

**17:15-19:15 hrs TOKYO**

**16:15-18:15 hrs BEIJING**

**09:15-11:15 hrs LONDON**

**13:45-15:45 hrs NEW DELHI**

**18:15-20:15 hrs SYDNEY**

**11:15-13:15 hrs MOSCOW**

**04:15-06:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION R**

### **Emerging Security Challenges in South Asia**

**Chair: Lt. Gen. Dr. Vijay Kumar Ahluwalia (Retd),** *Director, Centre for Land Warfare Studies.*

- **Dr. Deepak Prakash Bhatt,** *Member of Parliament of Nepal and Security Expert.*
- **Lt. Gen. Dr. Rakesh Sharma,** *Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Land Warfare Studies.*
- **AIG Rabi Raj Thapa (Retd),** *Former AIG of Armed Police Force.*
- **Asanga Abeyagoonasekera,** *Former Director, Institute of National security studies Sri Lanka.*
- **Geja Sharma Wagle,** *Security Expert.*
- **Prof. Shahab Enam Khan,** *Director, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute and Visiting Fellow, NIICE.*

**ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101**

**PW: niicenepal**





Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

16:00-18:00 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-21:15 hrs TOKYO

18:15-20:15 hrs BEIJING

11:15-13:15 hrs LONDON

15:45-17:45 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-22:15 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-15:15 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-08:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION S

### Revitalizing SAARC and BIMSTEC

**Chair: Amb. Rajiv Bhatia**, *Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House and Former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar.*

- **Amb. Dr. Sheel Kant Sharma**, *Former Secretary General, SAARC and Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Air Power Studies.*
- **Amb. Ahmed Saleem**, *Ambassador-at-Large at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Maldives and Former Secretary General of SAARC.*
- **Amb. Dr. Shambhu Ram Simkhada**, *Former PR to the UN and Nepalese Ambassador to Switzerland and National Defence University.*
- **Dr. Maihan Saeedi**, *Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan.*
- **Amb. Dr. Niranjan Man Singh Basnyat**, *Former Nepalese Ambassador to Malaysia.*
- **Dr. Piti Srisangnam**, *Director of Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University.*
- **Ruwanthi Jayasekara**, *Institute of National Security Studies Sri Lanka.*

ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101

PW: niicenepal



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

16:00-17:00 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-20:15 hrs TOKYO

18:15-19:15 hrs BEIJING

11:15-12:15 hrs LONDON

15:45-16:45 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-21:15 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-14:15 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-07:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 21

### Emergence of India as a Global Power

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Baijayant 'Jay' Panda**, *National Vice President of the Bharatiya Janata Party.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal



**Day 3**

**27 JUNE 2021**

**17:00-18:00 hrs KATHMANDU**

**20:15-21:15 hrs TOKYO**

**19:15-20:15 hrs BEIJING**

**12:15-13:15 hrs LONDON**

**16:45-17:45 hrs NEW DELHI**

**21:15-22:15 hrs SYDNEY**

**14:15-15:15 hrs MOSCOW**

**07:15-08:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION 22**

### **Diplomat's Conclave - II**

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Amb. Dr. Narad Nath Bharadwaj**, *Nepalese Ambassador to Qatar.*
- **Amb. Nona Deprez**, *Head of Delegation, Delegation of the European Union to Nepal.*
- **Amb. Ram Kaji Khadka**, *Nepalese Ambassador to Germany.*
- **Amb. Dr. Banshidhar Mishra**, *Nepalese Ambassador to Bangladesh.*
- **Amb. Krishna Prasad Dhakal**, *Nepalese Ambassador to UAE.*
- **Amb. Mani Prasad Bhattarai**, *Ambassador/ PR of Nepal to the UN and other International Organisations in Geneva*

**ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064**

**PW: niicenepal**



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

16:00-18:30 hrs KATHMANDU

19:15-21:45 hrs TOKYO

18:15-20:45 hrs BEIJING

11:15-13:45 hrs LONDON

15:45-18:15 hrs NEW DELHI

20:15-22:45 hrs SYDNEY

13:15-15:45 hrs MOSCOW

06:15-08:45 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## Asianism Retold

*An Initiative to Understand Values that Shape Asia's Influence in Geopolitics and Development.*

**Moderator and Presenter: Neha Bansal**, *Asia Fellow, Harvard University, Asianism Retold, The Need for Greater Awareness on the Asian Identity in Current Times.*

- **Prof. Dr. So Young Kim**, *Director, Korea Fourth Industrial Revolution Policy Center, Asian Ways of Fighting COVID-19? Asian Values and COVID-19 Responses.*
- **Prof. Dr. Mark R. Thompson**, *Head of Department of Asian and International Studies, City University of Hong Kong, Asian Values: From Indigenous Authoritarianism to Vernacularized Liberalism.*
- **Prof. Dr. Rafiqun Nabi**, *Visual Artist and Cartoonist, Professor at University of Dhaka, An Artist Speaks - Identity as Seen from the Eyes of Cartoon Tokai.*
- **Litey Kurisinkal**, *Human Rights Research Consultant, Is the Battle of Asian Values vs Human Rights Relevant?*

**Discussant: Prof. Shahab Enam Khan**, *Department of International Relations, Jahangirnagar University.*

*Supported by: Center for Asia Leadership*

ZOOM ID 828 3349 5146

PW: niicenepal





Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

18:00-20:00 hrs	KATHMANDU	17:45-19:45 hrs	NEW DELHI
21:15-23:15 hrs	TOKYO	22:15-00:15 hrs	SYDNEY
20:15-22:15 hrs	BEIJING	15:15-17:15 hrs	MOSCOW
13:15-15:15 hrs	LONDON	08:15-10:15 hrs	WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION T

### Preventing Extremism and Building Resilient Society

**Chair: Jay Nishaant**, *President, Nepal Democracy Foundation.*

- **Dr. Jirayudh Sinthuphan**, *Director of South Asia Research Center and a Lecturer in Communication Arts at Chulalongkorn University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Rahul Mukherji**, *Professor and Head of Department of Political Science and Executive Director, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed**, *Professor, Department of International Relations and Director, Center for Genocide Studies, University of Dhaka.*
- **Dr. Rollie Lal**, *Associate Professor, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University.*
- **Prof. Dr. Ayesha Siddiq**, *Research Associate, SOAS South Asia Institute, London University, **Is Counter-Extremism Possible under Extremist-Authoritarian Politics?***
- **Captain Alok Bansal**, *Director, India Foundation.*
- **Dr. Hassan Abbas**, *Distinguished Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies.*
- **Radhika Halder**, *Geopolitical Intelligence Analyst, MitKat Advisory*

**ZOOM ID 841 5502 1101**

**PW: niicenepal**



**Day 3**

**27 JUNE 2021**

**18:00-19:00 hrs KATHMANDU**

**21:15-22:15 hrs TOKYO**

**20:15-21:15 hrs BEIJING**

**13:15-14:15 hrs LONDON**

**17:45-18:45 hrs NEW DELHI**

**22:15-23:15 hrs SYDNEY**

**15:15-16:15 hrs MOSCOW**

**08:15-09:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC**

## **SESSION 23**

### **Indian Ocean and Maritime Security**

**Moderator: Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**, *Research Director, Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement.*

- **Admiral Prof. Dr. Jayanath Colombage**, *Foreign Secretary, Sri Lanka*

**ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064**

**PW: niicenepal**



Day 3

27 JUNE 2021

19:00-20:00 hrs KATHMANDU

22:15-23:15 hrs TOKYO

21:15-22:15 hrs BEIJING

14:15-15:15 hrs LONDON

18:45-19:45 hrs NEW DELHI

23:15-00:15 hrs SYDNEY

16:15-17:15 hrs MOSCOW

09:15-10:15 hrs WASHINGTON DC

## SESSION 24

### Regional Security Framework in South Asia

**Chair: General Pyar Jung Thapa (Retd.),** *Former Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army.*

- **General Bikram Singh,** *Former Chief of Army Staff, Indian Army.*

ZOOM ID 841 5584 7064

PW: niicenepal





# PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

*(In Order of Appearance and Confirmation Received)*





**Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena**

*Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka*

Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena is the Foreign Minister of Sri Lanka. As a veteran politician, Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena has engaged at all levels of politics and governance since he started his political career in 1973 as the Leader of the party of the People's United Front (the Mahajana Eksath Peramuna). Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena remained a member of the Parliament for 37 years from 1983 and has held multiple Ministerial portfolios, serving previously as Minister of Transport (2000), Minister of Environment (2001), Deputy Minister of Higher Education (deputized under the President- 2004-2007), Minister of Sacred Area Development (2007-2010) Minister of Urban Development (2004-2010), Minister of Water Supply and Drainage (2010-2015), Minister of Megapolis and Western Development (2018) and has also served as the Leader of the Joint Opposition (2015 to 2018). Hon. Dinesh Gunawardena was also the Leader of the House from November 2019 to March 2020 and is Minister of Employment Skills Development, and Labour Relations since 2019. He was Chief Government Whip from 2010-2015. He was a member of Parliamentary Select Committee.



**Dr. Shashi Tharoor**

*Former Minister of State for External Affairs and Under-Secretary General at UN*

Dr. Shashi Tharoor is a Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha and Former Minister of State for External Affairs and Minister of State for Human Resource Development. He was formerly Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and contested for the post of Secretary-General in 2006. He also serves as Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Information Technology and All India Professionals Congress. Dr. Tharoor received the Sahitya Academy Award for his book *An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India* in a non-fiction category in English language. Dr. Tharoor is an acclaimed writer, having authored 19 bestselling works of fiction and non-fiction since 1981, which are centred on India and its history, culture, film, politics, society, foreign policy, and more related themes. He is also the author of hundreds of columns and articles in publications such as The New York Times, The Washington Post, TIME, Newsweek, and The Times of India. He was a contributing editor for Newsweek International for two years.



**Suresh P. Prabhu**

*Former Minister and Indian Emissary to the G20 & G7*

Suresh P. Prabhu is an Indian Emissary to the G20 & G7 and Former Minister of Civil Aviation, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Minister of Railways, Minister of Power, Minister of Fertilizers & Chemicals, Minister of Environment and Forests and Minister of Industry. He is a Chartered Accountant by profession and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India. Since 1996, Prabhu has been repeatedly elected as a Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha constituency as a member of the Shiv Sena political party. He quit Shiv Sena and joined the BJP on 9 November 2014. In 2002-2004, he was also the Chairperson of Task Force for Interlinking of Rivers. He represents Andhra Pradesh in the Rajya Sabha and is also the Chancellor of Rishihood University.





**Dr. Abdulla Rasheed Ahmed**

*Minister of State for Education, Republic of Maldives*

Dr. Abdulla Rasheed Ahmed is the Minister of State for Education, Republic of Maldives. Dr. Ahmed is a distinguished educationalist with 30 years of experience in the field of education. He served as a principal of the government school for 18 years. He is a Former Vice Rector of Avid College and is currently the Head of the National Institute of Education. Dr. Ahmed was awarded with the title of the best principal of the Maldives in 2010. He is also the Global Goodwill Ambassador of International Education Advisory Council. He holds his PhD in Instructional Leadership from Asia E University, Malaysia and MA in Educational Leadership from University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.



**Prof. Dr. Taniguchi Tomohiko**

*Professor at Keio University and Special Adviser to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe (retd.)*

Dr. Taniguchi Tomohiko is a Professor at Keio University Graduate School of System Design and Management, reading international political economy and Japanese diplomacy. He was the Special Adviser to Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. Between February 2013 and March 2014, he was Councillor at Prime Minister's Office. After spending 20 years with *Nikkei Business*, he joined the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as Deputy Press Secretary and Deputy Director General for Public Diplomacy. In 1999 the Foreign Press Association in London elected him President, the first from “the East of Suez.” During his journalistic career, he spent sabbaticals at Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University, as a Fulbright Visiting Fellow, at the Shanghai Institute for International Studies, and at the Brookings Institution as a paid, “CNAPS” fellow. He also served as the Executive Adviser to the Chairman of the Central Japan Railway Company, KASAI, Yoshiyuki, while holding visiting professorships at Keio SDM and Meiji University School of Global Japanese Studies. He has authored and co-authored more than 10 books on international affairs.

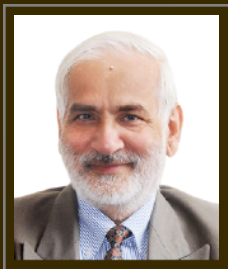


**Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**

*Research Director at Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement*

Dr. Pramod Jaiswal is a Research Director at Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement. He is Visiting Fellow at Sandia National Laboratories, New Mexico, US and Senior Fellow at the Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, New Delhi. Dr. Jaiswal has been a regular and visiting faculty at different universities and colleges of Nepal (Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu University, Pokhara University and Army Command and Staff College) and China (China Foreign Affairs University, Beijing; Fudan University, Shanghai, Tongji University, Shanghai and Qinghai University of Nationalities, Xining). Previously, he has worked with Manohar Parikkar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi and as Delhi Correspondent with the Rising Nepal. He is the Member of the Editorial Board, Academic Committee and International Advisory Committee of several journals and academic bodies. He has published around dozen of books, the most recent is the co-edited volume ‘Rebalancing Asia: The Belt and Road Initiative and Indo-Pacific Strategy’ (Springer, 2021).





**Prof. Dr. SD Muni**

*Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University and Former Diplomat*

Prof. S.D. Muni is a Professor Emeritus, Jawaharlal Nehru University and member of the Executive Council of Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. He has taught, conducted and supervised research at Jawaharlal Nehru University, National University of Singapore, Banaras Hindu University, and University of Rajasthan. He served as India's Special Envoy to South East Asian countries on UNSC Reforms and represented India's Minister of External Affairs at the 50th Anniversary celebrations of the Paris Peace Conference, held in Phnom Penh, Kampuchea. He was also India's Ambassador to Lao People's Democratic Republic. He was invited to address the UN Special Committee on Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace at Sochi, then as part of the Soviet Union, in 1985. Prof. Muni was nominated to the first ever constituted National Security Advisory Board of India and was the founding executive member of the Regional Centre of Strategic Studies, Colombo. In 2005, he was bestowed with 'Sri Lanka Ratna', Sri Lanka's highest national honor for a foreign national.



**Dr. Arvind Gupta**

*Director, Vivekananda International Foundation and Former National Security Advisor of India*

Dr. Arvind Gupta is the Director of the Vivekananda International Foundation, New Delhi. During 2014-17, he was the Deputy National Security Advisor and Secretary, National Security Council Secretariat. He also served as the Director-General and Lal Bahadur Shastri Chair on National Security at the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA). He was also the managing editor of Strategic Analysis, MP-IDSA's flagship academic journal. A former diplomat, he worked at the National Security Council Secretariat as a Joint Secretary on deputation from the Ministry of External Affairs. He is an Honorary Professor at the Department of Defence and National Security Studies, Punjab University. He has authored "*How India Manages Its National Security?*" and co-edited "*India's Foreign Policy: Surviving in a Turbulent World*".



**Amb. Dr. TCA Raghavan**

*Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs*

Dr. TCA Raghavan is Director General, Indian Council of World Affairs, New Delhi. Dr. Raghavan has retired from the Indian Foreign Service and is a former Indian High Commissioner to Pakistan and Singapore. His first book "*Attendant Lords, Bairam Khan and Abdur Rahim- Courtiers and Poets in Mughal India*" was awarded the Mohammad Habib Memorial Prize by the Indian History Congress in 2017. He is also the author of '*The People Next Door- The Curious History of India's relations with Pakistan*' (2017). His latest book and is titled '*History Men: Jadunath Sarkar, G S Sardesai, Raghubir Singh and Their Quest for India's Past*' (Harper Collins India, 2020).





**Amb. Manjeev Singh Puri**

*Distinguished Fellow at The Energy and Resources Institute*

Ambassador Manjeev Singh Puri is a Distinguished Fellow at The Energy and Resources Institute. He has served as Ambassador of India to the European Union, Belgium, Luxembourg and Nepal. Earlier he had served as Ambassador/Deputy Permanent Representative of India to the UN during the time that India was on the Security Council. Ambassador Puri has also headed the division in the Ministry of External Affairs dealing with UN issues on the social and economic side and been involved as a lead member of the Indian delegation at numerous global negotiations on climate change, sustainable development, migration, human rights and UN reforms. In addition, he has served twice in Germany (in Bonn and Berlin), in Cape Town, Muscat, Bangkok and Caracas. Major areas of his experience and professional focus relate to the environment, particularly climate change and sustainable development. He was a lead negotiator for India at the UN on issues relating to the post 2015 development agenda, Sustainable Development Goals and at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in June 2012. He was a key member of India's delegation at various Climate Change negotiations, including the Conference of Parties of the UNFCCC in Copenhagen in December 2009 and before that at Montreal, Bali, Bonn and Poznan. Furthermore, he was involved with India's participation in the G8-G5 Summits from 2005 and was the point-person for the Major Economies Forum.



**Prof. Dr. Sanjay Kumar Bhardwaj**

*Professor, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Prof. Sanjay Kumar Bhardwaj is a Professor at Centre for South Asian Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He holds his MPhil and PhD from the same university. He also served as the Director of Energy Studies Programme at Jawaharlal Nehru University. He has received several awards and fellowships such as SUSI Fellow 2018, CASS -ICSSR Fellow 2013 at Chinese Academy of Social Science, LSE-SRT Fellow at Asia Research Centre, London School of Economics and Political Science, ASIA Fellow at University of Dhaka and Fellow-2002-03 Youth Exchange Programme of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan. He has also engaged with international academic institutions like Yamaguchi University of Japan and Bangladesh Enterprise Institute of Dhaka. He has published as several national and international academic journals.



**Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik**

*Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik is a Research Fellow at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. She was awarded several awards and fellowships like Visiting Asia Fellow at Dhaka University, Kodikara Award, Post-doctoral Fellow at Fondation Maison des Science de l'Homme, Visiting Fellow at the International Peace Research Institute Oslo and ICCR's India Chair at the University of Colombo. Dr. Pattanaik has published more than 60 research articles, 50 chapters in edited books and delivered lectures in India and abroad. She has authored "*Elite Perception in Foreign Policy: Role of Print Media in Influencing India-Pakistan Relations 1989-1999*", "*Afghanistan and its Neighbourhood: In Search of a Stable Future*", edited "*South Asia: Envisioning a Regional Future*" and "*Four Decades of India Bangladesh Relations: Historical Imperatives and Future Direction*".





**Dr. Uttam Kumar Sinha**

*Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

Dr. Uttam Kumar Sinha is a Research Fellow and Head at Non-Traditional Security Centre, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. He is a recipient of many fellowships and leadership programmes including senior fellow at the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, US-South Asia Leader Engagement Programme at the Harvard Kennedy School, Chevening 'Gurukul' leadership at the London School of Economics and Political Science and a visiting fellow at the Peace Research Institute Oslo. He has recently published "*Indus Basin Interrupted: A History of Territory and Politics from Alexander to Nehru*". His other works include "*Riverine Neighbourhood: Hydro-politics in South Asia*" and "*Climate Change Narratives: Reading the Arctic*". His edited and co-edited volumes include "*The Modi Doctrine: New Paradigms in India's Foreign Policy*", "*Non-Traditional Security Challenges in Asia: Approaches and Responses*", "*Arctic: Commerce, Governance and Policy*" and "*Emerging Strategic Trends in Asia*".



**Dr. Ritu Agarwal**

*Associate Professor, Center for East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Dr. Ritu Agarwal is an Associate Professor at Centre for East Asian studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU). She holds a PhD in Chinese Studies from University of Delhi. She completed her MA in Political science, JNU. Her Doctoral work explored the micro-level agrarian transformation in Yunnan province. Her research interests are: rural political economy, urbanization, gender studies and provincial politics. Dr. Agarwal studied Mandarin from Beijing Language and Culture University, Beijing. She was a visiting scholar at Yunnan Academy of Social Sciences, Yunnan Minzu University and Yunnan University. She was also affiliated to Chinese University of Hong Kong and East Asia Institute, National University of Singapore for her research work.



**Amb. Dato Abdul Majid Bin Ahmad Khan**

*Former Chairman, Malaysian Investment Development Authority*

Amb. Dato Abdul Majid Bin Ahmad Khan is a Chairman of Malaysian Investment Development Authority. He is also the President of the Malaysia-China Friendship Association and the honorary Chairman of the Malaysia-China Chamber of Commerce. He is former Malaysian Ambassador to China. He holds a Bachelor of Economics (Honours) degree from University Malaya. Amb. Khan has a highly distinguished career spanning over three decades in the civil service, including the Prime Minister's Department as well as several missions abroad and senior positions in the Foreign Affairs Ministry. He has also carved a name for himself among Malaysia's illustrious personalities, especially in the corporate world. He is on several boards of companies, including three public-listed companies in Malaysia.



**Prof. Dr. Zhang Jiadong**

*Director, Center for South Asian Studies, Fudan University*

Prof. Zhang Jiadong is the Director of Center for South Asian Studies at Fudan University, Shanghai. From August 1999 to July 2001, he studied at the Center for International Relations Studies, Yunnan University and got an MA degree in International Relations. He received his PhD from School of International Relations and Public Affairs, Fudan University. In 2005, Prof. Zhang joined the Center for American Studies at Fudan University, working on terrorism affairs, anti-terrorism, and American anti-terrorism policy. His research interest includes anti-proliferation and anti-terrorism in general, the policies of the US and China on these issues in particular, and China's cooperation on international security. He has several publications on his research areas and has received several awards for his research.



**Prof. Dr. BR Deepak**

*Chairperson Centre for Chinese & South East Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

Prof. B. R. Deepak is Professor and Chair at the Centre for Chinese and Southeast Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He was trained in Chinese history and India-China relations at the Peking University and Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Beijing, at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and University of Edinburgh, UK. His recent publications include *China and India: Dialogue of Civilizations* by Pentagon Press (2021) and *India and China: Beyond the binary of friendship and enmity* by Springer (2020). He write "Eye on China" column for *Sunday Guardian*



**Dr. Jagannath P. Panda**

*Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

Dr. Jagannath Panda is a Research Fellow and Coordinator of the East Asia Centre at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. Dr. Panda has authored '*India-China Relations: Politics of Resources, Identity and Authority in a Multipolar World Order*', '*China's Path to Power: Party, Military and the Politics of State Transition*', edited '*China's Transition under Xi Jinping*', '*India-Taiwan Relations in Asia and Beyond: The Future*', and have co-edited two volumes '*Towards a New Asian Order*' and '*Revisiting Contemporary South Asia: Politics, Economics and Security*'. Dr. Panda is a Member of the Editorial Board of several journals and recipient of several prestigious fellowship such as Asia Fellowship, Carole Weinstein Fellowship, National Science Council Visiting Professorship from Taiwan, Visiting Scholar at University of Illinois and Visiting Fellowship at the Shanghai Institute of International Studies. He is the first South Asian scholar to receive the prestigious East Asia Institute's fellowship. Most recently, he was a Unification Fellow of the Ministry of Unification, Republic of Korea.





**Dr. Lou Chunnhao**

*Deputy Director, ISAS, China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations*

Dr. Lou Chunnhao is Deputy Director and Associate Research Professor of the Institute of South Asian Studies at the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR). He got his Ph.D. from CICIR in 2014 majoring in International Relations. He was visiting scholar at the Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis, New Delhi during May-November 2011. He was Deputy Director of the Institute of Maritime Studies and prior to that Assistant Research Professor of the Institute of South & Southeast Asia & Oceania Studies at CICIR. His research covers Indian studies, Sino-Indian Relationship, South Asian regional issues and maritime security. Dr. Lou's latest book *Study on Indian Business Houses' Political Influence* was published in February 2016.



**Shivane Thapa Basnyat**

*Senior News Editor, Nepal Television*

Shivane Thapa Basnyat is a Senior News Editor at Nepal Television. She holds over 15 years of experience in broadcast journalism with issues relating to politics and international relations being her areas of interest. She is one of the most sought-after moderators and master of ceremony for national and international events in Nepal. Besides, she is also invited to host important events abroad. Recently she hosted the Global Gathering of United Nations for Scaling Up Nutrition. Ms Basnyat is the founding member and Vice President of Children's Art Museum of Nepal, CAM. A Rotarian, she is also active in social welfare activities through the rotary movement.



**Rajesh Hamal**

*'Mahanayak' of Nepali Cinema*

Rajesh Hamal is a Nepali film actor, singer, model, and television host. Hamal is one of the highest-paid Nepali actor and has appeared in over 200 films in a career spanning nearly three decades. He is widely regarded as one of the most influential personalities in Nepali cinema. Hamal was the son of a diplomat, a scholarly man with a master's degree in English Literature, a Goodwill Ambassador and a recurrent contributor to charities. He has been honoured and continues to receive the honour for his work by the government of Nepal, the National Human Rights Commission, the Armed Police Force, the Nepal Federation of Indigenous Nationalities, President, Dr. Rambaran Yadav Federation of Nepali Journalists, also including a National Citizen Golden Award from *Rashtriya Nagarik Sworna Samman*.



**Manoj Gajurel**  
*Political Satirist*

Manoj Gajurel is a Nepali political satirist, comedian-actor, writer, singer, and comedy program judge. He has performed several acts and released numerous audio cassettes. Some of the popular releases from him include Photocopy, Manoj Ranjan, etc. He is well known for performing mimicry of popular political leaders like Puspa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda', Gyanendra Shah, Narendra Modi, Donald Trump, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, etc. He holds Master's degree in Mass Communication from Tribhuvan University. He was awarded with *Suprabal Janasewa* by the President of Nepal for his contribution. He has received several other national and international awards and has performed in different parts of the world.



**Dr. Swati Parashar**  
*Associate Professor, University of Gothenburg*

Dr. Swati Parashar is Director, Gothenburg Centre for Globalisation and Development and Associate Professor in Peace and Development Research at the School of Global Studies, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. Her research engages with the intersections between feminism and postcolonialism, focused on conflict, peace and development issues in South Asia and Africa. She is the author and editor of several books and journal articles and regularly contributes to media debates as an op-ed writer. Her most recent publication is the Routledge Handbook of Feminist Peace Research (co-edited with Tarja Väyrynen, Élise Féron, Catia Cecilia Confortini). She is an Associate Editor of the journal, *Critical Studies on Security* and serves on the advisory boards of *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *Millennium: Journal of International Studies*, *Critical Terrorism Studies*, *Third World Quarterly* and *Security Dialogue*.



**Prof. Dr. Laura J. Shepherd**  
*Australian Research Council Future Fellow, Sydney University*

Prof. Laura J. Shepherd is Australian Research Council Future Fellow and Professor of International Relations at Sydney University. She is also a Visiting Senior Fellow at the LSE Centre for Women, Peace and Security in London, UK. Prof. Shepherd's primary research focuses on the United Nations Security Council's 'Women, Peace and Security' agenda. She has written extensively on the formulation of UNSCR1325 and subsequent Women, Peace and Security resolutions. She has recently concluded a research project investigating logics of gender and space in UN peacebuilding discourse and is currently working on a research project examining advocacy around, and implementation of, the Women, Peace and Security agenda at global, national, and local levels. Prof. Shepherd is particularly interested in the politics of gender, security and violence, and she has strong interests in pedagogy and popular culture.





**Dr. Punam Yadav**

*Co-director, Centre for Gender and Disaster, University London College*

Dr. Punam Yadav is a Lecturer in Humanitarian Studies and Co-director of the Centre for Gender and Disaster at the UCL Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction. Dr. Yadav has over ten years' experience in the development sector, working with various I/NGOs and UN agencies. Dr. Yadav has extensively published on Nepal, including her book entitled "*Social Transformation in Post-conflict Nepal: A Gender Perspective*". The Chinese edition of this book was published in March 2020. Her other recent work includes "*Can Women Benefit from War? where examines the transformative effects of war on women*" and her co-authored piece, "Unruly wives in the household: Towards feminist genealogies for peace research" where they introduce a concept called 'wifesization'. Dr. Yadav's research interests include gender, conflict and disaster; political quota and women's political participation and women, peace and security.



**Maj. Gen. RPS Bhadauria (VSM) (Retd.)**

*Head, CS3, United Service Institution of India*

Maj. Gen. RPS Bhadauria is Head of Centre for Strategic Studies & Simulation (CS3) at United Service Institution of India, New Delhi. He regularly conducts strategic gaming exercises for National Defence College, Army War College and Indian Foreign Service Institute. He served the Indian Army for 36 years. General has vast experience in anti-terrorist operations both at policy formulation and execution level and has commanded a mountain division and brigade. He has held many prestigious staff appointments at Command and Army Headquarters. He has the unique experience of raising two large formations i.e. Division and Mountain Corps. He has attended course on Politics and Strategic Affairs at Escola Superior de Guerra in Brazil.



**Admiral Koda Yoji**

*Former Vice Admiral of Japan Maritime Self Defense Force*

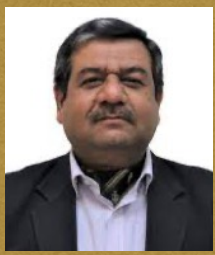
Admiral Yoji Koda is Retired as Vice Admiral of Japan Maritime Self Defense Force with surface warfare specialty and he is former Commander in Chief, Japan Maritime Self Defense Force. He is a graduate of National Defense Academy (NDA: 1972) and in 1991-1992 he was a student of Naval Command College at the U.S. Naval War College. After 40 years' service in National Defense Academy and Japan Maritime Self Defense Force, he served as Commander in Chief, Self Defense Fleet, from 2007 until his retirement in 2008. In 2009-2011, Koda became a senior fellow at Harvard University's Asia Center, where he worked on the Chinese naval strategy. He had served as an advisor to the National Security Secretariat. He is an erudite strategic thinker and an engaging speaker on naval power and contemporary security subjects. Koda is a proficient writer on maritime affairs and military history. His recent articles include: "Japanese Perspective on China's Rise as a Naval Power," (Harvard Asia Quarterly, Winter, 2010) and "Maritime Strategy and National Security in Japan and Britain" (Leiden and Boston, Global Oriental, 2012).



**Dr. John Lee**

*Senior Advisor to Former Australian Foreign Minister*

Dr. John Lee is a senior fellow (non-resident) at Hudson Institute and adjunct professor at Australian National University and University of Sydney. From 2016 to 2018, he was senior national security adviser to Australian Foreign Minister Julie Bishop. In this role, he served as the principal adviser on Asia and for economic, strategic, and political affairs in the Indo-Pacific region. Dr. Lee was also appointed the Foreign Minister's lead adviser on the 2017 Foreign Policy White Paper, the first comprehensive foreign affairs blueprint for Australia since 2003 and written to guide Australia's external engagement for the next ten years and beyond. He received his doctorate in international relations from the University of Oxford.



**Captain Sarabjeet Singh Parmar**

*Executive Director, National Maritime Foundation.*

Captain Sarabjeet Singh Parmar, alumnus of National Defence Academy and Defence Services Staff College, member of XI Indian Antarctic Summer Expedition in 1991 and commanded two ships and a Naval Air Squadron. He represented the Indian Navy in the first international HOSTAC conference held at Norfolk, US. He has served as Joint Director Naval Plans in Directorate of Naval Planning at IHQ MoD (Navy) and has been Directing Staff at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington. After his worked as a Research Fellow at the Manohar Parikaar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi, he was Director (Strategy) in the Directorate of Strategy Concepts and Transformation at IHQ MoD (Navy) and worked as Director Strategic Maritime Assessment and Doctrine Development and completed the doctrine development plan.



**Michael Shoebridge**

*Director, Defence, Strategy & National Security, Australian Strategic Policy Institute*

Michael Shoebridge is the Director of Defence, Strategy and National Security program at Australian Strategic Policy Institute. He was a senior executive in the Defence organisation and has been deputy in two defence intelligence agencies (DIO and ASD), ran the Defence, Intelligence and Research Coordination Division in the Prime Minister's department, and was the senior policy representative for Defence in Australia's Washington Embassy. He has worked with Ministers in two Commonwealth Ministers' offices. He served as Head of Minor War Vessels Branch in the then Defence Materiel Organisation and led the team that produced the 2013 Defence White Paper, and brought the Australia-US Defence Trade Treaty into force in 2012. In his last role in Defence, Michael established and led the Contestability function, which provides independent assessment and advice to the VCDF and Investment Committee on all Defence's major investment proposals.





**Dr. Liselotte Odgaard**

*Hudson Institute*

Dr. Liselotte Odgaard is a senior fellow at Hudson Institute. She has been a visiting scholar at institutions such as Harvard University, the Wilson Center, and the Norwegian Nobel Institute. She is the author of numerous monographs, books, peer-reviewed articles, and research papers on Chinese and Indo-Pacific security, and she is a frequent commentator on these issues in the media. Dr.

Odgaard's recent publications include "European Engagement in the Indo-Pacific: The Interplay between Institutional and State-Level Naval Diplomacy," *Asia Policy*, 14:4, October 2019, pp. 129-59 and "Europe's Place in Sino-U.S. Competition," in Ashley J. Tellis, Alison Szalwinski, and Michael Willis (eds.), *Strategic Asia 2020: Sino-U.S. Competition for Global Influence*, Seattle: NBR, 2020, pp. 277-304.



**Sama Thapa**

*Associate Editor, AP1 Television*

Sama Thapa is Associate Editor at AP1 Television and produce/ present a weekly current affairs debate show titled 'AP Center'. Thapa has been a journalist for more than one and half decade. She is also a contributing writer for Annapurna Post. Prior to joining AP1 Television, she served as a senior assistant editor at Kantipur Television and hosted the talk show like 'Sarokar' and 'Rise and Shine'. Thapa participated in the various training program including Writing and

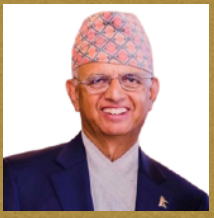
Reporting News from Thomson Reuter, Storytelling and Visual Writing from Gaylord College of Journalism and Mass Communication of USA, Ethics, and Code of Conduct for Reporter from Germany, and also hosting the national/international conference. She holds a Master's Degree in Sociology from Tribhuvan University.



**Amb. Gyan Chandra Acharya**

*Former Foreign Secretary of Nepal and UN Under Secretary General and High Representative for LDC*

Ambassador Gyan Chandra Acharya served as the UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States. He was also a member of the United Nations Senior Management Group and the High-Level Task Force for Global Food Security as well as a Commissioner of the high-level Broadband Commission for Sustainable Digital Development. He is also served on the Advisory Board of the Sustainable Energy for All initiative, co-chaired by the UN Secretary General and the President of the World Bank. Amb. Acharya was Foreign Secretary with the Government of Nepal, Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry and Joint Secretary (Director-General) responsible for South Asia, Europe and the Americas and Regional Organizations, Economic Relations and Coordination Divisions.



**Amb. Dr. Dinesh Bhattarai**

*Former Foreign Policy Advisor to Prime Minister and Former Diplomat*

Dr. Dinesh Bhattarai is a Former Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister of Nepal. He was Nepal's Ambassador/Permanent Representative to the United Nations including Conference on Disarmament and International Organizations.

He was accredited to the World Trade Organization in Geneva, Food and Agricultural Organization in Rome and United Nations Industrial Development Organization in Vienna. Dr. Bhattarai was also Ambassador to the Swiss Confederation, Republic of Italy and the Republic of Croatia. He served as First Secretary (Political Affairs) at the Embassy of Nepal in New Delhi and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Nepal in Washington D.C.. Dr. Bhattarai has worked in various capacities in Divisions of Protocol, Europe and America, Southeast Asia and Pacific, North Asia. He obtained his PhD in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He has co-authored a book, "Nepal-India: Democracy in the Making of Mutual Trust", published in 1993.



**Amb. Dr. Madan Kumar Bhattarai**

*Former Foreign Secretary of Nepal and Ambassador to Japan and Germany*

Ambassador Dr. Madan Kumar Bhattarai is a former Foreign Secretary and Nepalese Ambassador to Japan. He was as Expert on Foreign Affairs and Diplomacy (with the rank equivalent to minister of state). In his 37 years at Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA), he handled major bilateral visits, serving in India three times for eleven years. Dr. Bhattarai also was Spokesman of MOFA and the first-ever career diplomat to serve as Ambassador to the Federal Republic

of Germany. He holds PhD and D. Litt. in International Relations from Jadavpur University, Kolkata. Dr. Bhattarai is also the author of Diplomatic History of Nepal (1990) and 'Parastraka Prasak'.



**Prof. Dr. Anjoo Sharan Upadhyaya**

*Professor, Banaras Hindu University*

Dr. Anjoo Sharan Upadhyaya is a Professor of Political Science Malaysia Centre for Peace Research, Banaras Hindu University. She has held post-doctoral positions in London School of Economics and Political Science, Woodrow Wilson Centre for International Scholars, Washington DC and Brown University, US. Prof. Upadhyaya has been a Visiting Professor at Concordia University, University of Magdeburg (Germany) and Karlstad (Sweden). Apart from teaching, she has

served as Dean at Faculty of Social Sciences, as Head at Department of Political Science and as Research Director at Institute of Conflict Resolution and Ethnicity, The United Nations University, UK. Prof. Upadhyaya has published extensively on themes related to issues of Self-determination, ethnicity, conflict, federalism, gender and development and have lectured in various centers of learning in India and abroad.





**Prof. Zhang Shubin**

*Director, Nepal Study Center, Hebei University of Economics and Business*

Prof. Zhang Shubin is Director of Nepal Study Center at Hebei University of Economics & Business and Professor of English language in the Department of Foreign Language Teaching. He is also a Research fellow at the Chahar Institute, Council member of Chinese Association for South Asian Studies, and member of the Committee on Foreign Language Discourse System Research under the Translators Association of China. He worked in Nepal for three years as a Chinese language teacher and as Chinese director of Confucius Institute at Kathmandu University. He was a visiting scholar in the USA sponsored by the China Scholarship Council. His research interests include Critical Discourse Analysis, international politics, and country-specific & regional research for South Asia.



**Amb. Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury**

*Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Nepal*

H.E. Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury is the Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to Nepal. Before taking up this assignment, he held the position of Director General (Administration) at Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Dhaka. In his diplomatic career of 23 years, he worked in various capacities at Bangladesh Missions in New Delhi, Islamabad, New York Consulate and New York Permanent Mission. In the headquarters, he held positions like Director General (External Affairs), Director (Economic Affairs), Director (South East Asia) and Deputy Chief of Protocol (Visit). H.E Mr. Salahuddin Noman Chowdhury has attended various international meetings.



**Amb. Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada**

*Ambassador of Nepal to the United States of America*

H.E. Dr. Yuba Raj Khatiwada is the Ambassador of Nepal to the United States of America. He was the Minister for Finance and the Minister for Information and Communications along with the spokesperson for the Government of Nepal. Prior to being appointed as the Ambassador, Dr. Khatiwada served as the Special Economic Advisor to the Prime Minister of Nepal, a minister-level rank, and as a member of the National Assembly, the Parliament of Nepal. Dr. Khatiwada brings extensive experiences of having served two tenures as the Vice Chairman of the National Planning Commission in addition to becoming the 15th Governor of Nepal Rastra Bank, the Central Bank of Nepal. Beyond these, he also doctorate from the Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi and has served as a senior economist at the regional centre of the United Nations Development Programme for Asia and the Pacific. He has received national awards including the Suprabal Gorkha Dakshin Bahu, Sukirtimaya Rastra Deep, and Prasiddha Prabal Jana Sewa Shree conferred by the President of Nepal for his outstanding public services in different capacities.



**Amb. Udaya Raj Pandey**

*Ambassador of Nepal to Malaysia*

H.E. Udaya Raj Pandey is the Ambassador of Nepal to Malaysia, and is also serving as the Non-resident Ambassador of Nepal to Philippines, Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam. He also served as the Ambassador of Nepal to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Non-Resident Ambassador of Nepal to the Sultanate of Oman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Yemen and the Republic of the Sudan from August 2011 to August 2015. He has served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs as an advisor to the Foreign Minister from May 2007 to March 2008, and also served as the advisor to the Minister for Home Affairs from April 1997 to Oct 1997. He has wide knowledge and experience on the capitalization of youth-force for national development by ensuring employment and entrepreneurship. Ambassador Udaya Raj Pandey has been conferred with the Supraval Janasewa Shree Third by the Rt. Hon. President of Nepal in April 2015.



**Amb. Dr. Anjan Shakya**

*Nepalese Ambassador to Israel*

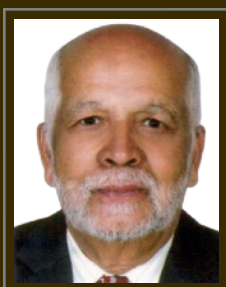
H.E. Dr. Anjan Shakya is Nepalese Ambassador to Israel. She was a Board Member of the Prime Ministerial Advisory Council for Promotion of Industry and Commerce and Deputy Executive Director of Institute of Foreign Affairs. She was also Chairperson of International Concern Center Nepal. She did her PhD in Management from Tribhuvan University and has taught at Presidential Business School (Westcliff University, USA) and Padma Kanya Multiple College. Dr. Shakya was Chairperson of Women Chamber of Commerce, Executive Member of Nepal Chamber of Commerce and Nepal-China Chamber of Commerce. She has edited books such as 'Foreign Policy of Nepal: Challenges and Opportunities', 'Vision on Foreign Affairs', Nepal-India Relations, Expansion of SAARC, and several others. She is recipient of many national level awards like Nepal Bidhya Bhusan, Jana Sewa Sri Padak, Gorkha Dakshin Bahu and felicitated from more than fifty social and non-governmental organizations.





**Amb. Ganesh Prasad Dhakal**  
*Nepalese Ambassador to Thailand*

H.E. Ganesh Prasad Dhakal is Ambassador of Nepal to the Kingdom of Thailand and is also serving as the Non-resident Ambassador of Nepal to Lao PDR. Ambassador Dhakal was the Permanent Representative to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific. He also served as the Director General of the Department of Consular Services, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). He was the Joint Secretary and Head of North-East Asia Division of the MoFA and served as the Joint Secretary and Head of the Central Asia, West Asia and Africa Division. Ambassador Dhakal joined the Ministry as a Section Officer in 1996.



**Amb. Nilamber Acharya**  
*Ambassador of Nepal to India*

H.E. Nilambar Acharya is the Ambassador of Nepal to India. He is the former Minister of Law and Justice and was the Chairman of the Constitutional Committee of the Constituent Assembly of Nepal. He has served as the Ambassador of Nepal to Sri Lanka and is a senior advocate at the Nepal Supreme court. He was also the member of the Eminent Persons Group on Nepal-India Relations. He has published several books and articles.



**Prof. Dr. Michaela Pelican**  
*University of Cologne*

Dr. Michaela Pelican is a Professor of Social and Cultural Anthropology at the University of Cologne. Previously, she was a guest professor at the Graduate School of Asian and African Area Studies, der Universität Kyoto, a lecturer in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Zurich, a researcher with the Max Planck Institute for Social Anthropology in Halle/Saale, and a Marie Curie Fellow at the University of Kent. She received her PhD from the Martin-Luther University Halle-Wittenberg and MA from the University of Bayreuth. Professor Michaela Pelican's current focus is on South-South mobility and migrant transnationalism, and involves research in sub-Saharan Africa, in particular Cameroon, Gabon, and South Africa, as well as in the United Arab Emirates and China.



**Dr. Amrita Datta**  
*Lecturer at University of Cologne*

Dr. Amrita Datta is a Researcher on transnational migration at the Global South Studies Centre, University of Cologne. She has earned a Doctoral degree in Sociology from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Earlier, she moderated the web-talk series titled "Corona Conversations: Mobility in a (post)COVID-19 Future". Her research focus includes Indian migrants in Germany with reference to transnational practices, gender and post-COVID-19 shifts in the diaspora.





**Dr. Jonathan Ngeh**  
*University of Cologne*

Dr. Jonathan Ngeh is a visiting scholar and a Principal Investigator at the Global South Studies Center, Cologne. He received his PhD in Sociology from the University of Umeå with a dissertation on the everyday experiences of African migrants in Sweden. He is engaged in research in the field of Human Trafficking within the context of migration from Africa to the Arab Gulf States. Before moving to the GSSC in 2019, he taught courses in Development Theory and Policy at the University of Bamenda, Cameroon.



**Prof. Dr. Habibul Khondker**  
*Zayed University*

Dr. Habibul Khondker is Professor of Sociology at Zayed University, Abu Dhabi and Co-Chair of Research Committee (Social Transformations and Sociology of Development) of the International Sociological Association. He has taught at the National University of Singapore for over two decade and has published articles on social inequality, glocalization, globalization, Asian globalization, cricket, migration, migration governance, secularism, democracy, new media, military in politics, famine and social transformation in various international journals. He has edited COVID-19 and Governance with Jan Nederveen Pieterse and Haeran Lim. He co-authored Globalization: East/West with Bryan Turner and co-edited Asia and Europe in Globalization: Continents, Regions, and Nations with Goran Therborn and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Globalization: Perspectives from the Gulf with Jan Nederveen Pieterse.



**Dr. Ratna Mani Nepal**  
*Tribhuvan University*

Dr. Ratna Mani Nepal is lecturer of rural development studies at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. His research interests include development perspectives, sustainable development, and political economy in the global south. He has been a visiting research fellow in the Department of Global Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara. His research articles have been published by Peter Lang Germany, Routledge London, Global-e UC Santa Barbara, and research journals in Nepal.



**Prof. Dr. Barry Buzan**  
*Emeritus Professor, London School of Economics and Political Science*

Barry Buzan is Emeritus Professor of International Relations at the London School of Economics and Political Science (formerly Montague Burton Professor); honorary professor at Copenhagen, Jilin, and China Foreign Affairs Universities; a Senior Fellow at LSE Ideas; and a Fellow of the British Academy. He was Project Director at the Copenhagen Peace Research Institute, Research Professor of International Studies at the University of Westminster, and Professor of International Studies at the University of Warwick. He was also visiting professor at the International University of Japan and Olof Palme Visiting Professor in Sweden. He took his first degree at the University of British Columbia, and his doctorate at the London School of Economics. He has written, co-authored or edited over twenty-five books, written or co-authored nearly one hundred and fifty articles and chapters, and lectured, broadcast or presented papers in over twenty countries.





**Dr. Siegfried O Wolf**

*Director of Research, South Asia Democratic Forum*

Dr Siegfried O. Wolf is Director of Research at the South Asia Democratic Forum (SADF, Brussels), and Senior Researcher (member) at the South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University. He is a former research/visiting fellow at the Centre de Sciences Humaines (New Delhi) and the National University of Science and Technology (Islamabad). Additionally, Dr Wolf works as a consultant to NATO-sponsored periodic strategic independent research and assessment of Afghanistan-Pakistan issues and was member of the external expert group of the Afghanistan-Pakistan Task Force, German Federal Foreign Office. His latest book is on 'The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor of the Belt and Road Initiative: Concept, Context, Assessment' (Springer, 2019).



**Prof. Dr. Wang Yiwei**

*Director, Center for European Studies, Renmin University*

Prof. Wang Yiwei is Jean Monnet Chair Professor, Director of Institute of International Affairs, Director of Center for European Studies at Renmin University of China. He is expert advisor of CCPIT Advisory Committee and Turkish TRT World Forum, The Council Member of China Center for International Economic Exchanges, CCIEE) and Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs (CPIFA). He was formerly diplomat at Chinese Mission to the European Union and distinguished professor at Tongji University, professor of Center for American Studies at Fudan University, visiting professor of Yonsei University and Fox Fellow of Yale University. His recent books include The Decline of Modern Civilization and the Dawn of Community of Shared Future for Humankind, An Interconnected World: China and the Belt and Road Initiative, China Connects the World: What Behind the Belt & Road Initiative (translated into 15 versions), New World Press, April. 2017; The Belt & Road Initiative: What China Will Offer the World in Its Rise (translated in 20 versions, both book of year 2015, 2016), Haishang: Revelations of European Civilization (both in Chinese and English) and China NATO Studies Series.



**Dr. Gulbin Sultana**

*Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

Dr. Gulbin Sultana is a Research Analyst with the South Asia Centre at the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA), New Delhi. Her area of research includes Sri Lanka and the Maldives. She has written extensively on the politico-economic and foreign policy developments of these two countries. Additionally, Dr. Sultana takes interest in the study of small island states particularly in the Indian Ocean Region and also issues pertaining to maritime security. She has done her MPhil and PhD from the South Asian Studies Division of School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Before joining MP-IDSA, she worked with the National Maritime Foundation and the United Service Institution of India in New Delhi. She is also a Visiting Fellow at the Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement (NIICE).



**Dr. Maria Adele Carrai**  
*New York University, Shanghai*

Dr. Maria Adele Carrai is an Assistant Professor of Global China Studies at New York University (NYU) Shanghai. Her research explores the history of international law in East Asia and investigates how China's rise as a global power is shaping norms and redefining the international distribution of power. In light of the development of the Belt and Road Initiative, she is looking in particular at the economic, legal, and political repercussions of Chinese investments and economic engagement in Europe and Africa. Prior to joining NYU Shanghai, she was a recipient of a three-year Marie-Curie fellowship at KU Leuven. She was also a Fellow at the Italian Academy of Columbia University, Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program, Max Weber Program of the European University Institute of Florence, and New York University Law School.



**Prof. Dr. Minhas Majeed Khan**  
*University of Peshawar*

Dr. Minhas Majeed Khan is an Assistant Professor of International Relations at University of Peshawar, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Pakistan. She has a Ph.D. in International Relations with Postdoctoral research on "An Analysis of Religious Freedom and Democracy in Pakistan Under International Religious Freedom Act of the US" at the Institute of Strategic Studies, Islamabad, and on "Countering Violent Extremism: Religious Minorities as Victims and Targets" at the Center for Women, Faith and Leadership at Institute for Global Engagement, Washington D.C. She has been engaged in research on the role of religion in politics, particularly the US and Pakistan, religious extremism, countering violent extremism, Islamophobia, Westophobia, role of gender in peace and security and conflict prevention/resolution.



**Choodamani Bhattarai**  
*Editor-in-Chief of DCNepal*

Choodamani Bhattarai is the Editor-in-Chief of DCNepal online media. Previously, he has worked as Deputy Editor of Annapurna Post daily and as Senior Sub-Editor/Reporting Coordinator At Kantipur Publications. He has a Master of Science in Homeland Security from the University of the District of Columbia in Washington D.C., and Master's Degree in Mass Communication and Journalism from Kantipur City College, Nepal. He has completed an Advanced Security Cooperation Course from Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) Hawaii, USA and is the founding member of APCSS Alumni Association of Nepal.





**Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan AVSM & Bar, VSM (Retd)**

*National Maritime Foundation and Former Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command, Indian Navy*

Vice Admiral Pradeep Chauhan is the Director-General of the National Maritime Foundation, New Delhi. He has been the principal evaluator of the Navy's battle-tactics, the Head of the Naval Training Team at the Defence Services Staff College, and the Principal Director of Naval Operations. As a Flag Officer, he was the Navy's first Assistant Chief of the Naval Staff (Foreign Cooperation & Intelligence). As a Vice Admiral, he has been Chief of Staff of the Western Naval Command and he has been commended three times by the President of India for sustained distinguished service. Apart from being on the visiting faculty of the higher-command establishments of all three of India's defence services, as also triService establishments such as the College of Defence Management, Hyderabad and the National Defence College, New Delhi, he has also been advising the government through his interaction with the Integrated Headquarters of the Ministry of Defence (Navy), the Ministry of External Affairs, the National Security Council Secretariat, and the Joint Intelligence Committee. He is, in addition, a prolific writer with over 85 published professional articles and papers, and, a respected Adviser and Fellow of several important think-tanks including the Ananta-Aspen Centre; the Forum for Strategic and Security Studies; and, the Centre for Advanced Strategic and Security Studies.



**Dr. Satu Limaye**

*Vice President and Director, East-West Center in Washington*

Dr. Satu Limaye is Vice President & Director of the East West Center in Washington. He is the founding editor of the Asia Pacific Bulletin, Senior Advisor to China & Indo-Pacific Division at the Center for Naval Analyses and Senior Fellow on Asia History and Policy at the Foreign Policy Institute at Paul H. Nitze School of International Studies (SAIS). He received his doctorate from Oxford University. He currently serves on the Korea Economic Institute (KEI) Advisory Council, the Taiwan-Asia Exchange Foundation, and the National Bureau of Asian Research East Asia Study Group. His recent publications include: Raging Waters: China, India, Bangladesh, and Brahmaputra Water Politics, Russia's Peripheral Relevance to US-Indo Pacific Relations, "The U.S.-Philippine Alliance: A Renegotiated Mutual Defense Treaty is Neither Simple nor a Panacea for Bilateral Ties", Weighted West: The Indian Navy's New Maritime Strategy, Capabilities, and Diplomacy, ASEAN is Here to Stay and What that Means for the U.S., America's 2016 Election Debate on Asia Policy and Asian Reactions (with Robert Sutter), The United States-Japan Alliance and Southeast Asia: Meeting Regional Demands, and The Indian Ocean in Japan's Free and Open Indo-Pacific Policies (forthcoming). Previously he was a Research Staff Member of the Strategy and Resources Division at the Institute for Defense Analyses and Director of Research and Publications at the Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, a direct reporting unit of U.S. Pacific Command. He has been an Abe Fellow at the National Endowment for Democracy and a Henry Luce Scholar and Research Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs in Tokyo.





**Dr. Deepa M. Ollapally**

*Sigur Center for Asian Studies, George Washington University*

Dr. Deepa Ollapally is Research Professor of International Affairs and the Associate Director of the Sigur Center. She also directs the Rising Powers Initiative, a major research program that tracks and analyzes foreign policy debates in aspiring powers of Asia and Eurasia. She is the author of five books including *Worldviews of Aspiring Powers* and *The Politics of Extremism in South Asia*. Her most recent books are two edited volumes, *Energy Security in Asia and Eurasia*, and *Nuclear Debates in Asia: The Role of Geopolitics and Domestic Processes*. Previously, she was Associate Professor at Swarthmore College and has been a Visiting Professor at Kings College, London and at Columbia University. Dr. Ollapally also held senior positions in the policy world including the US Institute of Peace, Washington DC and the National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bangalore, India. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Columbia University.



**Abhijit Singh**

*Head, Maritime Policy Initiative, Observer Research Foundation*

Abhijit Singh is Senior Fellow and Head, Maritime Policy Initiative at the Observer Research Foundation in New Delhi. He is a former Naval officer with command experience in front-line Indian naval ships, he has been involved in the writing of India's maritime strategy (2007). Editor of two books on maritime security - *Indian Ocean Challenges: A Quest for Cooperative Solutions* (2013) and *Geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific* (2014), Abhijit has published papers on India's growing maritime reach, security of sea-lines of communication in the Indo-Pacific region, Indian Ocean governance issues and maritime infrastructure in the Asian littorals. His articles and commentaries have been published in the Asian Bureau for Asian Research (NBR), the Lowy Interpreter, the World Politics Review, the Diplomat and CSIS Pacific Forum.



**Dr. Aparna Pande**

*Director, Initiative on the Future of India and South Asia, Hudson Institute*

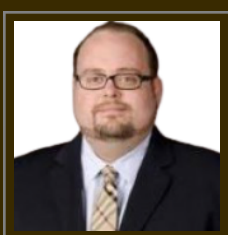
Dr. Aparna Pande is Research Fellow at Hudson Institute. Her major field of interest is South Asia with a special focus on India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Foreign and Security Policy. She has contributed to *The American Interest*, *The Hindustan Times*, *The Times of India*, *The Live Mint*, *Huffington Post*, *Sunday Guardian*, *The Print*, and *Real Clear World*. A 1993 graduate of Delhi University, Dr. Pande holds a Master of Arts in History from St. Stephens College at Delhi University and a Master of Philosophy in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University. She received a Doctorate in Political Science from Boston University in 2010. Aparna Pande's books include *Explaining Pakistan's Foreign Policy: Escaping India* (Routledge, 2011), *From Chanakya to Modi: Evolution of India's Foreign Policy* (Harper Collins, 2017), *Routledge Handbook of Contemporary Pakistan* (Routledge, August 2017), and *Making India Great: The Promise of a Reluctant Global Power* (Harper Collins, 2020).



**Dr. Amit Gupta**

*USAF Air War College*

Dr. Amit Gupta is an Associate Professor in the USAF Air War College, Alabama. His writings have focused on arms production and weapons proliferation, South Asian and Australian security policies, Diaspora politics, popular culture and politics and, more recently, on the US-China rivalry and the impact of demography on US foreign policy. His articles have appeared in *Orbis*, *Asian Survey*, *Security Dialogue*, *The Round Table*, and *Mediterranean Quarterly*. He is also the author or editor of seven books the most recent of which are: *Air Power: The Next Generation*, Amit Gupta Ed., Howgate Publishing, 2019 and *Maritime Heritage and Challenges in the Indian Ocean and the Western Pacific*, Howard M. Hensel and Amit Gupta (Eds.) Routledge, 2018.



**Prof. Jeffrey S Payne**

*Manager of Academic Affairs, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies*

Prof. Jeffrey Payne currently serves as the Manager of Academic Affairs at the Near East South Asia (NESA) Center for Strategic Studies. He joined the NESA Center in 2012, after serving for five years as an Instructor of Political Science at Butler University. As a long time Asia Hand, Prof. Payne conducts analysis on Chinese foreign policy, Indian Ocean Rim security, and maritime security. He is particularly interested in the intersection of maritime security and power competition in the Indian Ocean and the security dimensions of growing East Asia-Indian Ocean Rim relations. Presently, he serves as the NESA Center's lead for programs that focus on the Indo Pacific region. He also serves as the director of NESA's programmatic series on security challenges in Indian Ocean Region. His writings have appeared in *ChinaFile*, *the National Interest*, *The Diplomat*, *War on the Rocks*, *CIMSEC*, and the Middle East Institute's MAP Project, among others. He has presented at defense colleges, universities, and research centers throughout Asia and Europe.



**Prof. Dr. Agnieszka Kuszewska**

*Institute of the Middle and Far East, Jagiellonian University*

Dr. Agnieszka Kuszewska, (Dr. Habil.) is an Associate Professor at the Institute of the Middle and Far East, Faculty of International and Political Studies, Jagiellonian University in Krakow. She also lectures at Warsaw-based Collegium Civitas university and is a member of European Association for South Asian Studies. She did her PhD on Kashmir conflict and habilitation on radicalization processes in Pakistan. Her research and teaching focus on the international relations, regional connectivity, conflict studies, political, human rights-related, economic and social challenges of Asia and Pacific, particularly South Asia. She is an author of three books and numerous articles and research papers. She lectured at many Asian and European universities, including Pakistan, India, Uzbekistan, Germany, Estonia, Latvia.





**Amb. Dinesh K Patnaik**

*Director General, Indian Council for Cultural Relations*

Ambassador Dinesh K. Patnaik (IFS:1990) is a career diplomat of the Indian Foreign Service. He has served in Indian Missions in Geneva, Dhaka, Beijing and Vienna. At Headquarters, he has served in the Europe West, External Publicity, Africa and UN Divisions. Mr. Patnaik served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Indian Embassy in Vienna from 2009 to 2012. He was India's Ambassador to Cambodia from 2012 to 2015 and India's Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco from 2015 to 2016. He was Deputy High Commissioner of India to London from 2016 to 2018. Prior to joining Indian Council for Cultural Relations, he served as Additional Secretary (Indian Ocean Region) and thereafter Additional Secretary (CPV&OIA) in the Ministry of External Affairs. Ambassador Patnaik holds a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Kolkata. He also holds a Master's degree in Advanced International Studies from the University of Vienna and Certificate in International Studies from the Diplomatic Academy, Vienna.



**Amb. (p) Gheorghe Savuica**

*President, Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies*

Ambassador (p) Gheorghe Savuica is a President of Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies. He was Ambassador of Romania to Indonesia and Pakistan and Chief of Mission to Sri Lanka, Malaysia, the Philippines, Cyprus, Finland and Estonia. He is a former Director of the Asia Pacific Division and former Director General of the Asia Pacific, Near and Middle East, Africa and Latin America Department of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He has published several articles, chapter on international affairs. Amb. (p) Savuica received the "Grigore Gafencu" Award on behalf of the Academy of Romanian Scholars (Academia Oamenilor de Știință din România). He is a lifetime member of the Society of Asian Civilisations, Islamabad, and Institute for Maritime and Strategic Studies, Jakarta. He has established the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Romania - Malaysia in 2008.



**Prof. Dr. Stanley Rosen**

*University of Southern California.*

Stanley Rosen is a Professor of Political Science and International Relations at the University of Southern California (USC), specializing in Chinese politics and society. He was the Director of the East Asian Studies Center at USC's Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences from 2005 to 2011. The author or editor of nine books and many articles, Rosen has written on such topics as the Cultural Revolution, the Chinese legal system, public opinion, youth, gender, human rights, and film and the media. He is the co-editor of Chinese Education and Society. His books include Soft Power with Chinese Characteristics: China's Campaign for Hearts Minds (Routledge, 2020 (co-edited), Chinese Politics: State, Society and the Market (Routledge, 2010) (co-edited), and Art, Politics and Commerce in Chinese Cinema (Hong Kong University Press, 2010) (co-edited). Other ongoing projects include a forthcoming co-edited book on Chinese politics and a study of Hollywood films in China and the prospects for Chinese films on the international market, particularly in North America. Prof. Rosen has escorted twelve delegations to China for the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, and consulted for the World Bank, the Ford Foundation, the United States Information Agency, the Los Angeles Public Defenders Office, and others.





**Dr. Lila Nyaichyai**  
*Tribhuvan University*

Dr. Lila Nyaichyai has a PhD in “Chinese Public Diplomacy in Nepal” from the School of International Relation Studies, Yunnan University, China. She is currently working as a member of the China desk for the Center of Nepalese and Asian Studies. Her research areas include public diplomacy, soft power, political and social themes. She has extensively contributed opinion articles in newspapers.



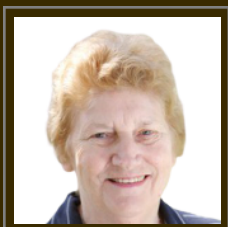
**Viktoriia Ivanchenko**  
*Expert of Russian International Affairs Council and NIICE*

Viktoriia Ivanchenko is an expert of Russian International Affairs Council and PICREADI (Russian NGO on soft power) and Visiting Fellow at NIICE. Her research interests include public diplomacy, media technologies, integration in Europe and Eurasia, Russia and the West relations. He was an intern at the Verkhovna Rada — the Parliament of Ukraine. She also worked at the Higher School of Economics and Russian Foreign Trade Academy. She holds MA in European Studies from the Higher School of Economics and a BA in International Relations from Donetsk National University, Ukraine.



**Prof. Dr. Anuradha Chenoy**  
*Former Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.*

Prof. Anuradha Chenoy is the former Dean at School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. She has been Chairperson of Area Studies and Director of the Centre for Russian and Central Asian Studies. She has evaluated the work of organisations like Focus on the Global South, Asia Europe Peoples Forum and worked with several international organizations such as UN Women, UN Peace Keepers, UNESCO and others. She has several publications on security studies, development studies and gender studies, to name few - Maoist and Other Armed Conflicts, Re-emerging Russia: Structures, Institutions and Processes, The Making of New Russia, Comparative Politics and Crisis of Governance: The Russian Conundrum, Militarism and Women in South Asia.



**Prof. Dr. J. Ann Tickner**  
*Professor Emerita, University of Southern California*

Prof. J. Ann Tickner was Professor of Politics and International Relations at Monash University, Professor Emerita at School of International Relations, University of Southern California and Distinguished Scholar in Residence at American University. She was President of the International Studies Association. She holds a PhD from Brandeis University and an Honorary PhD from the University of Uppsala and Monash University. Her principle areas of research include international theory, peace and security, and feminist approaches to international relations. Her publications include, Self-Reliance Versus Power Politics: American and Indian Experiences in Building Nation-States, Gendering World Politics, and A Feminist Voyage Through International Relations. She was ranked #21 of scholars having the greatest impact on the International Relations discipline over the past 20 years. She was also named as one of fifty key thinkers in Martin Griffiths, Fifty Key Thinkers in International Relations.





**Prof. Dr. Laura Sjoberg**  
*University of Florida*

Prof. Laura Sjoberg is British Academy Global Professor of Politics and International Relations at Royal Holloway University of London and Professor at the University of Florida. Her research addresses issues of gender and security, with focus on politically violent women, feminist war theorizing, sexuality in global politics, and political methodology. Her work has been published in more than 50 books and journals. Dr. Sjoberg's recent books include *Women as Wartime Rapists*, (with J. Samuel Barkin) *Interpretive Quantification*, (with Caron E. Gentry and Laura J. Shepherd) *Routledge Handbook of Gender and Security*, (with J. Samuel Barkin) et al.



**Prof. Dr. Cynthia Enloe**  
*Research Professor, Clark University*

Prof. Cynthia Enloe is a Research Professor in the Department of International Development, Community, and Environment, and is affiliated with Political Science Department and Women's and Gender Studies at Clark University, Massachusetts. She currently serves on the editorial advisory boards of several reputed journals such as *International Feminist Journal of Politics*, *Security Dialogue*, *Women, Politics and Policy* etc. Professor Enloe's career has included Fulbrights in Malaysia and Guyana, guest professorships in Japan, Britain, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. Prof. Enloe's fifteen books include *Bananas, Beaches and Bases* and its thoroughly updated and revised 2nd edition, *Maneuvers: The International Politics of Militarizing Women's Lives*, *The Curious Feminist* and *Nimo's War*, *The Real State of America: Mapping the Myths and Truths about the United States* (co-authored with Joni Seager) et al. In 2017, she was selected to be named on the Gender Justice Legacy Wall, installed in the International Crimes Court, The Hague.



**Prof. Dr. David Lublin**  
*Chair, Department of Government, American University*

Dr. David Lublin is Professor and Chair of the Department of Government in the School of Public Affairs at American University. He obtained his PhD from Harvard University and completed his BA at Yale University. Treasurer of the American Political Science Association and Co-Chair of APSA's Task Force on Election Assistance, Prof. Lublin is recipient of three National Science Foundation grants and a fellowship from the German Marshall Fund. His most recent book, *Minority Rules: Electoral Systems, Decentralization, and Ethnoregional Parties*, published by Oxford won the Best Book Award from the Race, Ethnicity and Politics Section of the APSA. He has also published *The Paradox of Representation: Racial Gerrymandering and Minority Interests in Congress* and *The Republican South: Democratization and Partisan Change*, on American politics published by Princeton. He has published as several reputed journals. His work on redistricting was cited by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Georgia v. Ashcroft*.





**Prof. Dr. David Barker**

*Director, Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, American University*

Dr. David C. Barker is Professor of Government and Director of the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies, and Co-Founder of the Program on Legislative Negotiation at American University. He studies American political behavior and governance, political psychology, and electoral politics. He has served as principal investigator on over 50 externally funded research projects and he has authored/coauthored over 80 publications--including four books (Rushed to Judgment [2002; Columbia University Press], Representing Red and Blue [2012; Oxford University Press], One Nation, Two Realities [2019; Oxford University Press], and The Politics of Truth in Polarized America [2021; Oxford University Press]). He was Professor and Director of the Institute for Social Research at California State University-Sacramento, where he founded CALSPEAKS Opinion Research and co-founded the Public Health Survey Research Program. From 2005-2012, he was Associate Professor of Political Science and Religious Studies at University of Pittsburgh, where he also served as the Director of Graduate Studies. He has held visiting appointments at Science Po in Paris, the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, and the University of Sydney.



**Amb. Dr. Mahesh Maskey**

*Former Nepalese Ambassador to China.*

Amb. Dr. Mahesh Maskey is a former Nepalese Ambassador to China and Executive Chief of Nepal Health Public Foundation. He was a member of Advisory Council for Health Research of World Health Organization South East Asia Region and Executive Chair to the Nepal Health Research Council. He has also served as Advisor to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Health and Population, Chair of High level Health Policy Advisory Committee of Ministry of Health and Population, and Chair of the South Asian Forum for Health Research. He contributed in the drafting of Three-year interim health plan of Government of Nepal and was the chair of High-Level Health Policy Advisory Committee. He has also been a teaching assistant in Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Boston University, USA. He is a published author and had presented papers in many regional and international conferences.



**Amb. Leela Mani Paudyal**

*Former Chief Secretary and Nepalese Ambassador to China*

Amb. Leela Mani Poudyal is the former Chief Secretary of the Government of Nepal and a former Nepalese Ambassador to China. Amb. Poudyal joined the Nepalese civil service in 1988 and worked as several positions, department and ministries including Industrial Promotion and Administration Division in the Ministry of Industry Commerce and Supplies. Ambassador Paudyal worked as Secretary at the Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Ministry of Information and Communications, Ministry of Home and also at the Office of Prime Minister and Council of Ministers between 2007 and 2012. He further served as Consular General for Tibet Autonomous Region of China and as the Non-resident Ambassador to Mongolia and North Korea.





**Prof. Dr. Li Tao**

*Executive Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, Sichuan University*

Prof. Li Tao is the Executive Director of the Institute of South Asian Studies, Sichuan University. She has published more than 100 papers in Chinese and English around the world. She also has produced dozens of consultation reports to Central United Front Work Department of CPC Central Committee, Information Office of the State Council and CPC Sichuan Provincial Committee etc. She was awarded with 8 prizes at provincial and ministerial level by the Central United Front Work Department, the State Ethnic Affairs Commission, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and the provincial government. Prof. Li presently is the Editor-in-Chief of Annual Report on The Development Of South Asian, the Executive Editor-in-Chief of South Asian Studies Quarterly, a member to the editorial board of International Politic, Vice Chairperson of Chengdu-South Asia Association for Economic Trade Cooperation, deputy secretary general of Chinese Association for Asia-Pacific Studies, executive member of Chinese Association for South Asian Studies, member of China-India Friendship Association, a lead researcher for “South Asian Ethnic and Religious Studies” of 985 Project.



**Prof. Dr. Dai Yonghong**

*Director: Institute of Bay of Bengal Studies, Shenzhen University*

Prof. Dai Yonghong is Professor and Director at Institute of the Bay of Bengal Studies, Shenzhen University. He is also an academic member at China Center for South Asia Studies and Research Professor of International Relations and was the Director of Center for Myanmar Studies at Sichuan University and Non-Resident Senior Fellow of Institute of Security and Development Policy, Sweden. He has worked at University of Yangon, Myanmar. He is the author of several books and research papers. Prof. Dai had been working on international contracting & international trade in South Asia over 1986 to 1997 in charge of bidding and management of loan programs granted by World Bank and Asian Development Bank.



**Prof. Dr. Khadga KC**

*Professor, Tribhuvan University*

Professor Khadga KC is a Japan Foundation Fellow MONBUSHO Fellow of Government of Japan, US State Department's SUSI Fellow, and a Guest Professor at Leshan Normal University, China and a Visiting Faculty at Nepali Army Command and Staff College, APF Command and Staff College, and Nepali Army Higher Command and Management. He holds his PhD and Post-Doctoral Research from Nagasaki University, Japan under Japanese Government Scholarship. He has edited Journal of Political Science and Journal of International Affairs. He is on the editorial board of Journal of International Affairs, Department of International Relations, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh, Journal of Asian Political Affairs, Department of Political Science, Chittagong University, Bangladesh and Policy Review-Journal, Policy Research Institute, Nepal. He has contributed numerous research articles in national and international Journals.



**Dr. Rupak Sapkota**

*Deputy Director, Institute of Foreign Affairs*

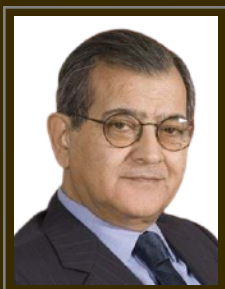
Dr. Rupak Sapkota is a Deputy Executive Director of the Institute of Foreign Affairs. He is also an adjunct faculty in the Department of International Relations and Diplomacy at Tribhuvan University. Dr. Sapkota received his PhD in International Relations from the Renmin University, Beijing. Dr. Sapkota has been performing as an emerging expert on global affairs. His research focuses on geopolitics, security studies, relations between big and small powers, strategic studies of China, India, and Nepal, and the concept of Trilateralism among these nations, as well as the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the Indo-Pacific, and beyond.



**Lt. Gen. GS Katoch, PVSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd)**

*Council Member, United Service Institution of India*

Lieutenant General Ghanshyam Singh Katoch has held a number of prestigious Command and Staff appointments in his Service. He has a Bachelor's degree from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, two Masters Degrees, one in Defence & Strategic Studies from Madras University and the other in Defence Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, USA and an M.Phil degree in Defence & Strategic Studies from Devi Ahliyabai University, Indore. He retired in March 2016 as the Director General Strategic Planning. Presently, he is the Head Editorial Team at the United Service Institution of India, (USI), New Delhi.



**Amb. Farooq Sobhan**

*Former Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh*

Ambassador Farooq Sobhan is currently the Distinguished Fellow & Board Member of the Bangladesh Enterprise Institute. He was Executive Chairman, Board of Investment and Special Envoy to the Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary. He has also served as Ambassador/High Commissioner to India, China, Malaysia and the United Nations. Ambassador Sobhan served as Chairman of the Group of 77 at the UN and was Chairman, UN Commission on TNCs. He is a member of the Board of Governors of the South Asia Centre for Policy Studies, based in New Delhi and was Co-Chairman of the Coalition for South Asian Co-operation. He was a visiting professor at the Elliott School for International Affairs at George Washington University and Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the independent Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility. He is currently a Member of the International Advisory Committee of the Asia Society in the US, the Round Table and Patron of the Ramphal Centre in London. He chaired the Task Force established by the Asia Foundation in 2004 on "The US Role in South Asia".





**Lt. Gen. KJ Singh PVSM, AVSM & Bar (Retd.)**

*Former Indian Army Commander*

Lt. Gen. Kamal Jit Singh is a retired Indian Army officer and former general officer commanding-in-chief of Western Command. After retirement, he was conferred with Maharaja Ranjit Singh Chair of Excellence in Punjab University and was appointed as Advisor to CM Haryana in November 2018. He graduated from the National Defence Academy and attended various staff courses in training academies of the Indian Army throughout the country. Singh worked closely with UN Peacekeeping forces stationed in Angola and was commended by the chief and UN Force Commander during his tenure. He held several appointments as commanding officer and also staff appointments at the headquarters of the Indian Army. In 2019, Singh was appointed as State Information Commissioner and was inducted into Chandigarh Advisory Council.



**Maj. Gen (Retd) AKM Abdur Rahman, OSP, ndc. Pic (retd.)**

*Former Director General, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies*

Major General AKM Abdur Rahman, OSP, ndc, psc (retired) is a typical para commando infantry officer who served in Bangladeshi Army for forty years and retired in December 2020. During his long distinguished career he served with honour in various prestigious appointment. He served as faculty in almost all the important training institutions of the Army including National Defence College and Defence Services Command and Staff College. He was also the Military Secretary of the Army. He was the Director General and Chief Executive of Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies for more than five years. The General has several publications in his credit and edited more than forty professional books and journals. He participated in more than 200 national and international seminar, symposium and dialogue in different capacity. He is now a full time businessman but remains actively involved with academic world.



**Maj Gen Binoj Basnyat (Retd)**

*Strategic Analyst, South Asian Affairs*

Major General Binoj Basnyat (retd.) from the Nepali Army is a Strategic Analyst, South Asian Affairs. He is highly decorated with the Order of Suprabal Jana Seva Shree, Nepal; Order of the Lion of Finland; and the Order of Cross of Germany. He holds Masters of Philosophy degree in Defense and Strategic Studies with first class from University of Madras. He served in key leadership and management roles, notably as Brigade commander, Division Commander and Deputy Chief of Staff. After his retirement from the Army, he represented the UN Department of Political Affairs as a resource person for Sri Lanka Transformational and Rehabilitation program. He devotedly is involved in advising, writing, editing and participating in intellectual capacity. He likes Strategic thinking. His focus is in Geo-political and National Security issues. He has been researching in China and South Asia.



**Lobzang Dorji**

*Royal University of Bhutan.*

Lobzang Dorji is a Lecturer at Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan. Previously, he worked as reporter to Bhutan Times, as researcher to Bhutan Tourism Cooperation Limited, as Cultural Tour guide to Yangphel Adventures, and Project Officer to Bhutan Association for Women Entrepreneurs. Dorji completed his BA from Sherubtse College, Royal University of Bhutan. He is the recipient of South Asian Fellowship from Bhutan to pursue MA in International Relations (South Asia), PG Diploma in Rural Development and PG Diploma in Human Rights from UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institute of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation in Pondicherry Central University, India. He has also attended the Young Sinologist Programme in Beijing.

**Amb. Shivshankar Menon**

*Former National Security Advisor and Foreign Secretary of India*

Ambassador Shivshankar Menon was a distinguished fellow with Brookings India, and is currently a distinguished fellow with the Centre for Social and Economic Progress. He is Chairman of the Advisory Board of the Institute of Chinese Studies in New Delhi. Amb. Menon served as national security advisor to the Prime Minister of India and as Foreign Secretary of India. A career diplomat, he has served as Ambassador or High Commissioner of India to Israel, Sri Lanka, China, and Pakistan. He was a member of India's Atomic Energy Commission and has also served in India's missions to the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna and in the Department of Atomic Energy in Mumbai. Amb. Menon has been a Richard Wilhelm Fellow at MIT and Fisher Family Fellow at Harvard University and a member of the Board of Trustees of the International Crisis Group, and a Distinguished Fellow of the Asia Society Policy Studies Institute in New York. In 2010, Amb. Menon was chosen by Foreign Policy magazine as one of the world's top 100 Global Thinkers. He has authored 'Choices: Inside The Making of Indian Foreign Policy' and 'India and Asian geopolitics'.

**Prof. Dr. C. Raja Mohan**

*Director, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore*

Professor C Raja Mohan is Director, Institute of South Asian Studies. Earlier, he was Professor of South Asian Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University and at the S Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University. He has been associated with a number of think tanks in New Delhi, including the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, the Centre for Policy Research and the Observer Research Foundation. He was also the founding director of Carnegie India and was the Henry Alfred Kissinger Chair in International Affairs at the United States Library of Congress, Washington DC. He served on India's National Security Advisory Board. He led the Indian Chapter of the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. Among his recent books are Samudra Manthan: Sino-Indian Rivalry in the Indo-Pacific and Modi's World: Expanding India's Sphere of Influence.





**Amb. Tomasz Lukaszuk**

*Former Polish Diplomat and Faculty, University of Warsaw.*

Ambassador (Retd.) Tomasz Lukaszuk is a Member of the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw and Global India Project (grant from the EU Commission). He is former Ambassador of Poland to Indonesia and Timor Leste (2005-2010), and India and Nepal (2014-2017), Director of Asia Pacific Department of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland (2010-2012). His current research interests include South and Southeast Asian countries foreign policy, maritime governance in the Indian Ocean Region.



**Dr. Rajeswari (Raji) Pillai Rajagopalan**

*Observer Research Foundation*

Dr. Rajeswari (Raji) Pillai Rajagopalan is the Director of the Centre for Security, Strategy and Technology at the Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi. Dr. Rajagopalan was the Technical Advisor to the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Prevention of Arms Race in Outer Space. She was also a Non-Resident Indo-Pacific Fellow at the Perth USAsia Centre, Assistant Director at the National Security Council Secretariat and Research Officer at the Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. She was also a Visiting Professor at the Graduate Institute of International Politics, National Chung Hsing University. Dr. Rajagopalan has authored or edited nine books including Global Nuclear Security: Moving Beyond the NSS (2018), Space Policy 2.0 (2017), Nuclear Security in India (2015), Clashing Titans: Military Strategy and Insecurity among Asian Great Powers (2012), The Dragon's Fire: Chinese Military Strategy and Its Implications for Asia (2009).



**Dr. Stephen R Nagy**

*International Christian University*

Dr. Stephen Nagy is a senior associate professor at the International Christian University in Tokyo, a fellow at the Canadian Global Affairs Institute (CGAI) and a visiting fellow with the Japan Institute for International Affairs (JIIA). His recent funded research projects are “Sino-Japanese Relations in the Wake of the 2012 Territorial Disputes: Investigating changes in Japanese Business’ trade and investment strategy in China”, and “Perceptions and drivers of Chinese view on Japanese and US Foreign Policy in the Region”. He is currently working on middle power approaches to great power competition in the Indo-Pacific. His latest publications include: “Indo-Pacific Resilience, Prosperity and Stability: Canada’s Capabilities-led Approach to Strategic Free and Open Indo-Pacific Engagement,” in Canadian and Japanese FOIP Visions. Policy Perspectives, Canadian Global Affairs Institute. “Sino-Japanese Reactive Diplomacy as seen through the Interplay of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and the Free and Open Indo-Pacific Vision (FOIP).” “Quad-Plus? Carving out Canada’s Middle Power Role.” Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs. Special Issue. Quad Plus: Form versus Substance.





**Amb. Gautam Bambawale**

*Former Indian Ambassador to China, Bhutan and Pakistan*

Ambassador Gautam Bambawale has been India's Ambassador to Bhutan, Pakistan and China. He has headed the Indian Cultural Centre, Berlin and was stationed in Washington D.C. during the Indo - U.S. nuclear deal. He has worked at the Prime Minister's Office and has 17 years of experience dealing with China, in various capacities. As head of the East Asia desk in the Indian foreign ministry, he was responsible for boosting India's ties with Japan, South Korea and Mongolia besides China. Ambassador Gautam Bambawale has recently become the second IFS officer to join the private sector as he recently joined Ola, one of the world's largest ride-hailing companies, as senior adviser for corporate and international affairs.



**Dr. Nian Peng**

*Deputy Director, National Institute for South China Sea Studies*

Dr. Nian Peng is the Deputy Director and Associate Fellow of Research Center for Maritime Silk Road, National Institute for South China Sea Studies, China. His main research interests are in the areas of China-Southeast/South Asia relations, Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), maritime security of the Indo-Pacific. He authored four books-*Crossing the Himalayas: Buddhist Ties, Regional Integration and Great-Power Rivalry*, *The Reshaping of China-Southeast Asia Relations in Light of the COVID-19 Pandemic*, *International Pressures, Strategic Preference*, and *Myanmar's China Policy since 1988*, “*Leng Zhan Hou Yin Mian Guan Xi Yan Jiu* 冷战后印缅关系研究 [A Study on Indo-Myanmar Relations after the Cold-War]” (Beijing: *Shi Shi Chu Ban She* 时事出版社).



**Dr. Peter T. C. Chang**

*Deputy Director, Institute of China Studies, Malaya University*

Dr. Peter T. C. Chang is the Deputy Director of the Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya. He works on more applied ethics trajectory, exploring how a rejuvenated Confucian tradition may shape the evolving character of the Chinese milieu and in turn impact the global community. Dr. Chang is also analyzing the opportunities and risks associated with the Belt and Road Initiative. He is examining this from the perspective of China's soft power, specifically the Chinese traditional as well as pop cultural imprints upon Malaysia, and the world at large.



**Dr. Nicușor-Sever-Cosmin Florea**

*Director of Programmes, Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies*

Dr. Nicușor-Sever-Cosmin Florea is Director of Programmes at the Romanian Institute for Europe-Asia Studies (IRSEA), based in Romania. He holds a summa cum laude PhD in International Law from China University of Political Science and Law. A former university lecturer in Beijing, Dr. Florea was honoured as Outstanding International Faculty of the University of International Business and Economics, and Outstanding Foreign Scholar of People's Republic of China. In 2020, he joined the European China Law Studies Association.

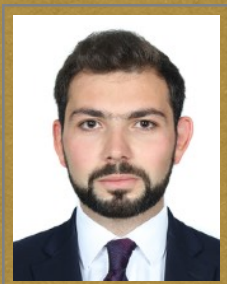




**Dr. Mher Sahakyan**

*Director, China-Eurasia Council for Political and Strategic Research*

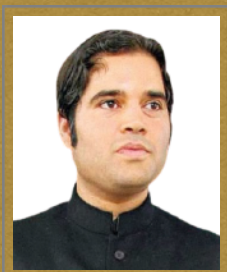
Dr. Mher Sahakyan is Founder and Director of China-Eurasia Council for Political and Strategic Research, Armenia. He is the founder of the annual international conference Eurasian Research on Modern China and Eurasia and was AsiaGlobal Fellow at Asia Global Institute, University of Hong Kong. He is an elected advisory board member of the International Institute for Peace, Austria and is member of the British Association for Chinese Studies. Dr. Sahakyan holds a PhD in International Relations from China's Nanjing University and is a lecturer at the Russian-Armenian University and the National Academy of Sciences of Armenia. He has authored 'China's Belt and Road Initiative and Armenia', which was published in Armenian and Russian.



**Dr. Ruben Elamiryan**

*Russian-Armenian University*

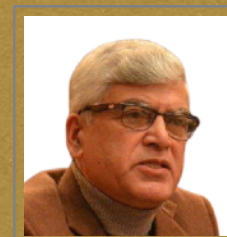
Dr. Ruben Elamiryan is the Chairperson and an Associate Professor at the Department of World Politics and International Relations at Russian-Armenian University and at the Public Administration Academy of the Republic of Armenia. He received his PhD in Political Science (International Relations) from the Academic Council at the National Strategic Research Institute, under the Ministry of Defense of Armenia. He was a Visiting Fulbright Scholar at Princeton University and his ten year's research and teaching cover international relations, geopolitics, as well as international and cyber security, with focus on the South Caucasus, Eastern Europe, Russia, and Eurasia.



**Feroze Varun Gandhi**

*Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from Pilibhit, India*

Feroze Varun Gandhi is a third-term Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the Pilibhit constituency. He is a member of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and was the youngest General Secretary of the party. In August 2011, Varun Gandhi strongly pitched for the Jan Lokpal Bill, aimed to deter corruption, compensate citizen grievances, and protect whistle-blowers. In May 2013, Varun Gandhi was made in charge of the BJP's affairs in West Bengal. He is a writer and columnist and contributes regularly. In 2018, he published his book on the Indian rural economy titled "The Rural Manifesto: Realising India's Future Through Her Villages".



**Amb. Dr. Shambhu Ram Simkhada**

*Former Diplomat and National Defence University*

Ambassador Dr. Shambhu Ram Simkhada served as a member of Secretariat of the Special Committee chaired by the Prime Minister and its Technical Committee for the Supervision, Integration and Rehabilitation of the Maoist Army Combatants. He was a former permanent representative to the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva and also served as Chairman of the United Nations Human Rights Commission (Council), Ambassador to Switzerland and member secretary and treasurer of Social Welfare Council. He teaches as Department of International Relations and Diplomacy and Conflict, Peace and Development Studies at Tribhuvan University.





**Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti**

*Executive Chairperson, Policy Research Institute*

Dr. Bishnu Raj Upreti is Executive Chairperson of Policy Research Institute. He holds his PhD in Conflict Management from the Wageningen University and Post-Doc from the University of London. He served as South Asia Coordinator of a global research programme. Previously, he was Research Director of Nepal Centre for Contemporary Research. He is also teaching and supervising PhD and masters students at different universities. He has authored and co-edited 61 books, 500 articles and is the members of Board of Trustees of International Foundation for Science and member of Advisory Boards of different organizations.



**Riya Sinha**

*Centre for Social and Economic Progress*

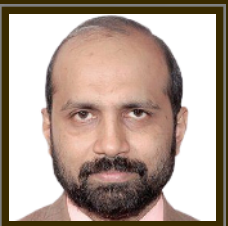
Riya Sinha is a Research Associate at Center for Social and Economic Progress, New Delhi. She has been working on regional integration in South Asia, particularly in the area of trade, border infrastructure and supply chains. She has also worked on Cross-Line of Control Trade in Jammu and Kashmir and conducted studies across various ports for Ease of Doing Business in India.



**Dr. Irina Ionela Pop**

*Center for Geopolitics and Security in Realism Studies*

Dr. Irina Ionela Pop is Director and Senior Research Fellow, Asia-Pacific Programme, Center for Geopolitics and Security in Realism Studies. She holds a PhD in International Relations and European Studies. Dr. Irina was lecturer in two Romanian universities and currently, she is also working within a multinational corporation. She various research stages and traineeships in Belgium, France, Poland and Romania, and contributions in several European Union's public consultations in the energy field.



**Captain Alok Bansal**

*Director, India Foundation*

Captain Alok Bansal is Director, India Foundation. He is also Adjunct Professor at New Delhi Institute of Management and the Secretary General of Asian Eurasian Human Rights Forum. He was the founder Executive Director of the South Asian Institute for Strategic Affairs and a visiting professor at the Pakistan Studies Programme at Jamia Millia Islamia. He has been the Executive Director of the National Maritime Foundation and has also worked with the IDSA, and CLAWS. He has also been appointed as an Adjunct Professor in Tibetan Studies Centre of Central University of Himachal Pradesh. Captain Bansal in his 32 years service at Indian Navy, participated in Operation Pawan in Sri Lanka and has commanded two warships. His recent co-edited book is titled *UNCLOS: Solutions for Managing the Maritime Global Commons*. He has earlier authored two books titled *Balochistan in Turmoil: Pakistan at Cross Roads* and *Gilgit-Baltistan and its Saga of Unending Human Rights Violations*. He has co-authored *Occupied Territories of Bharat* and has co-edited *South Asian security: 21<sup>st</sup> century discourses*, *Pakistan Occupied Kashmir: The Untold Story*, *Sri Lanka: Search for Peace* and *Geopolitics of Himalayan Region: Cultural, Political and Strategic Dimensions*.





**Dr. Mirwais Balkhi**

*Former Minister of Education, Afghanistan, Diplomat and Professor*

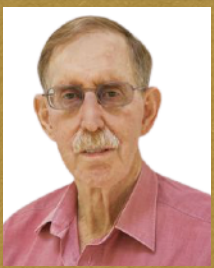
Dr. Mirwais Balkhi served as the Minister of Education of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. He was the Deputy Ambassador of Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in New Delhi and head of Africa and Middle East Desk in the Center for Strategic Studies and the Chief Editor of the CSS' Quarterly Journal of Strategic Studies at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Prior to joining the CSS, Dr. Balkhi was a lecturer at the Law and Political Science Faculty at American University of Afghanistan & several other Private Universities. He holds a PhD in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University and has authored "Saudi Arab's Foreign Policy towards Afghanistan; 1991-2014", "Balkhis of India" and "A Critique on Afghanistan's Regional Integration" and edited 'Afghanistan After 2014'. He was lecturer at American University of Afghanistan and several other Private Universities. He is also Visiting Fellow at NIICE.



**Prof. Dr. Victoria V. Panova**

*Vice-President, International Relations, Far Eastern Federal University*

Dr. Victoria V. Panova is the Vice-President for International Relations of the Far Eastern Federal University. She also held the post of the Scientific Supervisor of the BRICS Expert Council and Managing Director of National Committee of BRICS Research. She was also Associate Professor and Deputy Head of the Department of International Relations and Foreign Policy at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations. She has served as Regional Director for Russia of the G8 Research Group, University of Toronto and was member of National Working Group of Advisory Council and part of Common European Security project. Since 2015, she is co-chair for the Civil BRICS process initiated by the Russian civil society; permanent member of the Jury for the Youth 8, 20, BRICS. She was visiting fellow (and now life member) at University of Cambridge, LSE, BRICS Policy Center, etc.



**Dr. Dan Schueftan**

*University of Haifa*

Dr. Dan Schueftan is Director, National Security Studies Center at the University of Haifa, and Senior Lecturer at the School of Political Sciences and Israel Defense Force's National Defense College. He was Visiting Professor at Georgetown University in US and he has been briefing ministers, senior officers, defense and intelligence officials including Israel's Prime Minister's Office, Foreign Ministry, Defense Ministry and National Security Council as well as to US Senate and House of Representatives. He has authored 'A Jordanian Option - Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians; Attrition: Egypt's Post War Political Strategy 1967-1970; Disengagement - Israel and the Palestinian Entity; Palestinians in Israel - the Arab Minority and the Jewish State and others.





**Dr. Vishal Chandra**

*Research Fellow, Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses*

Dr. Vishal Chandra specialises in the politics of Afghan conflict and war at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis, New Delhi. He has travelled widely in Afghanistan and has participated in various academic as well as track-II forums. His book, *The Unfinished War in Afghanistan: 2001-2014* (Pentagon Press, New Delhi), was reviewed in *India Today*, *The Pioneer*, *Indian Foreign Affairs Journal* (a quarterly of Association of Indian Diplomats), *The Book Review*, *New Straits Times* (Kuala Lumpur) and *The Journal of Slavic Military Studies* (Routledge). The book was also reported in the Afghan media by *Pajhwok Afghan News*, *Afghanistan Times* and *Daily Outlook Afghanistan*.



**Dr. Anna A. Velikaya**

*Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration*

Dr. Anna A. Velikaya is Lecturer at Russian Presidential Academy of National economy and Public administration. She is the co-editor and author of “Russia’s Public Diplomacy” (Palgrave Macmillan, 2019). She was a spokesperson of the Russian delegation to International Military Sports Council, also she was working at the Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Foundation and at IMEMO RAS. She is a member of the Expert Council of Rossotrudnichestvo Federal agency and is an advisor at Tillotoma Foundation, India. Her recent publications are “Comparative aspects of Russian and US Public Diplomacy in the Middle East” for Tehran International Studies & Research Institute (TISRI), and “Soviet Public Diplomacy” for “Place Branding and Public Diplomacy”.



**Dr. Manpreet Sethi**

*Centre for Air Power Studies*

Dr. Manpreet Sethi is Distinguished Fellow at Center for Air Power Studies, New Delhi, where she heads its programme on nuclear security. She is recipient of K Subrahmanyam award in 2014 and Commendation by Chief of Air Staff in 2020. Since receiving her PhD in 1997, she has worked on nuclear issues ranging from energy, strategy, arms control to disarmament. She is author/co-author/editor of eight books and over 100 papers. She lectures regularly at the National Defence College and other establishments of Indian Armed Forces, Police, Foreign Services, and Universities. Sethi is a regular at flagship nuclear policy conferences, Track II initiatives and the UN. She was Member, Prime Minister’s Informal Group on Disarmament in 2012, and on Executive Board of the Indian Pugwash Society. Currently on Board of Directors of Asia Pacific Leadership Network (APLN) and Consultant with Nuclear Abolition Forum.





**Amb. Marc Finaud**

*Geneva Center for Security Policy*

Ambassador Marc Finaud is a former French diplomat and head of Arms Proliferation at Geneva Center for Security Policy. He joined the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1977, first at the Military Cooperation Division and served as Second Counsellor at the French Delegation to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva and a member of the French Delegation to the First Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations in New York. He was also Head of the Information Department (and alternate spokesman) of the Foreign Ministry in Paris and Deputy Head of Mission at the French Embassy in Tel Aviv. He also worked as Senior Resident Fellow at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research. He has published many articles, chapters and books on arms control and disarmament and international affairs.



**Prof. Dr. Swaran Singh**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Dr. Swaran Singh is Professor for Diplomacy and Disarmament at Centre for International Politics, Organization and Disarmament, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He is President of Association of ASIA Scholars, General Secretary of Indian Association of Asian & Pacific Studies, Guest Professor at Research Institute of Indian Ocean Economies, Yunnan University of Finance and Economics (China) and Advisory Board Member of Atlanta-based Communities Without Borders Inc. (United States). He has been Visiting Professor and member of Editorial Board of several reputed universities and journals around the world. Prof Singh has co-edited Transforming South Asia: Imperatives for Action (2013); India and the GCC Countries, Iran and Iraq: Emerging Security Perspectives (2013), On China By India: From Civilization to State (Cambria 2012) etc.



**Dr. Sannia Abdullah Close**

*Stanford University*

Dr. Sannia Abdullah is affiliated to Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University, Stanford University and was a visiting scholar at Sandia National Labs. She was Postdoctoral Fellow at Stanford University. She was a faculty in the Department of Defense and Strategic Studies at Quaid-i-Azam University, Pakistan. Some has published with several reputed journals and she is working on her book manuscript, focusing on the evolution of Pakistan's nuclear behavior and its deterrence logic.



**Dr. Sitakanta Mishra**

*Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University*

Dr. Sitakanta Mishra is Associate Professor of International Relations at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University, India. He was a Research Fellow at the Centre for Air Power Studies (CAPS), Guest Faculty at Jamia Millia Islamia, and Associate Editor of the Indian Foreign Affairs Journal. He was a Visiting Research Scholar at Cooperative Monitoring Centre and CRDF Visiting Scholar at US. He is also a Visiting Research Fellow at CAPS, New Delhi. Dr. Mishra has authored/edited four books, two monographs, many chapters, and research papers related to South Asian affairs.



**Dr. Han Hua**

*School of International Studies, Peking University*

Dr. Han Hua is Associate Professor at the School of International Studies (SIS), Peking University. She found the Center for Arms Control and Disarmament in 1990s at SIS and teaches courses in International Arms Control, Disarmament and Nonproliferation, and IR and nuclear deterrence in South Asia, International Relations Theory. Her research interests cover nuclear-related deterrence and strategic stability both in regional and global perspectives. She has been a visiting researcher at The Managing of Atom Project, at Belfer Center, Harvard University, USA; School of International Affairs, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA; Stockholm International Peace Research Institute(SIPRI), Sweden; the Stimson Center, USA; the Monterey Center for Nonproliferation, USA; Victoria University, Canada; and the Peace and Conflict Institute, Uppsala University, Sweden. She has also written extensively on Arms Control, nonproliferation and South Asia for journals and newspapers in China and abroad.



**Dr. Frank O'Donnell**

*Stimson Center*

Dr. Frank O'Donnell is a Nonresident Fellow with Stimson's South Asia Program. He is a Postdoctoral Fellow in the National Security Affairs Department at the US Naval War College. He has been a Stanton Junior Faculty Fellow and Associate at the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University, an Assistant Professor at the Britannia Royal Naval College, and has also held research positions at the University of Aberdeen and James Martin Center for Nonproliferation Studies. He has co-authored 'India and Nuclear Asia: Forces, Doctrine, and Dangers'



**Amb. Dr. Arjun Karki**

*Former Nepalese Ambassador to the United States of America*

Dr. Arjun Karki is the Chief Executive Officer of Rural Reconstruction Nepal and Former Ambassador of the Government of Nepal to the United States of America, Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Mexico, and Guyana. Dr. Karki is also the Ambassador-Designate to Honduras. Dr. Karki earned his PhD in Development Studies from the University of East Anglia, UK and worked as an International Fellow at The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), UK. He has published works of international repute and academic credentials including undertaken peer review for the Oxford University Press and SAGE Publications. He played a noted role as a human rights defender at the national and international levels.





**Prof. Dr. Peter Trubowitz**

*London School of Economics and Political Science*

Dr. Peter Trubowitz is Professor of International Relations and Director of the US Centre at the London School of Economics and Political Science and Associate Fellow at Chatham House, Royal Institute of International Affairs. His publications include *Politics and Strategy: Partisan Ambition* and *American Statecraft and Defining the National Interest: Conflict and Change in American Foreign Policy*, as well as articles in reputed journals.



**Amb. Vishnu Prakash**

*Former Indian Diplomat*

Ambassador Vishnu Prakash was India's High Commissioner to Canada. He was the Ambassador to South Korea, Spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs and Consul General to Shanghai. He also held various positions in Tokyo, New York, Moscow, Islamabad, Vladivostok and Cairo. Amb. Prakash did a sabbatical with the 'Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies' in Hawaii. He is associated with prominent think-tanks, educational institutions and writes regularly for national and international publications.



**Dr. Xiaoyu Pu**

*University of Nevada*

Dr. Xiaoyu Pu is Associate Professor of political science at the University of Nevada, Reno. He is a Public Intellectuals Program fellow with the National Committee on United States-China Relations and a non-resident senior fellow with the Inter-American Dialogue in the US. Dr. Pu was a postdoctoral fellow at the Princeton-Harvard China and the World Program at Princeton University and Stanton Fellow at Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV) in Brazil. He is the author of 'Rebranding China: Contested Status Signaling in the Changing Global Order'. His research has appeared in reputed journals and is an editor of *The Chinese Journal of International Politics* and an editorial board member of *Foreign Affairs Review*, Beijing.



**Dr. Asuka Matsumoto**

*Doshisha University*

Dr. Asuka Matsumoto is Assistant Professor at the Department of Policy Studies, Doshisha University. She was previously a Visiting Scholar at the Edwin O. Reischauer Center for East Asian Studies, Johns Hopkins SAIS, a Research Fellow at KIER-CAPS of Kyoto University and at the Japan Institute of International Affairs. Dr. Matsumoto also served as a project associate professor at the University of Kyushu and taught at Japan Maritime Self Defense Force Command and Staff College and Musashi University as a part-time lecture. She co-authored "Year Book of Asian Affairs".



**Dr. Andrés Serbin**

*CEO, Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales.*

Dr. Andrés Serbin is a CEO, Coordinadora Regional de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales, the Co-Chair of the Asia and the Americas Section of Latin American Studies Association, a Counselor of the Argentine Council of International Relations and a member of Chatham House and Valdái Club. He served twice as Adviser to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Venezuela, Director of Caribbean Affairs with the Latin America Economic System and Director of the trilingual academic journal *Pensamiento Propio*. He is a founding member and the former Chair of the International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect and of the Global Partnership for the Prevention of Armed Conflict. He is also a founding member and current President Emeritus of the Venezuelan Institute of Social and Economic Research. He was a Professor at the Central University of Venezuela and holds Emeritus Researcher at the Venezuelan National Council of Science and Technology. He has been Visiting Professor at several universities in UK, US, France and Brazil, and is member of the Academic Council of the BRICS program at the San Petersburg State University and the Director of the Post-Graduate Program on Russia and Eurasia at the Catholic University of Argentina. He has authored and edited several books and articles in Spanish, English, and Russian.



**Dr. Jirayudh Sinthuphan**

*Chulalongkorn University*

Dr. Jirayudh Sinthuphan is the Director of South Asia Research Center and a Lecturer in Communication Arts at Chulalongkorn University. He received his PhD in Drama and Performance Practice from the University of Exeter. He is an editor of *‘Mapping Migration: Culture and Identity in the Indian Diasporas in Southeast Asia and the UK’* published by Cambridge Scholars Publishing. He is also leading a research consortium on *‘Social Innovation for Sustainable and Livable ASEAN Cities’* and on *‘Extremism in South and Southeast Asia’*. He has also taken part in *‘Media Literacy for Social Change’* project for the ERASMUS+ University Network and in *‘Mindful Communication Curriculum’* for the IPDC of UNESCO.



**Dr. Jyoti M Pathania**

*Centre for Land Warfare Studies.*

Dr. Jyoti M Pathania is Senior Fellow and Chairperson Outreach committee at Centre for Land Warfare Studies, New Delhi. She has over 20 years of teaching experience and was awarded scholarship to European Peace University in Austria, Spain, and Ireland to pursue another Masters’s in Advanced Studies in ‘Peace and Conflict Studies’. She has worked as analyst for South Asian Analysis Group and the Assistant Director at Amity Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution. She is awarded many scholarships, including one by the Chief Army Staff, General Bipin Rawat for excellence in research and establishing collaboration with international research institutes. She has several publications and is the founding editor of the Online Indian Journal of Peace & Conflict Resolution. She has authored *India- Pakistan: Confidence Building Measures*.





**Dr. Medha Bisht**  
*South Asian University*

Dr. Medha Bisht is Senior Assistant Professor at South Asian University. She holds a PhD from Diplomatic Studies Division, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She has also worked with Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses as Research Associate. She has authored 'Kautilya's Arthashastra: Philosophy of Strategy'. She has conducted several research on Hydro-diplomacy of South Asia with stakeholder engagements.



**Dr. Aslam Khan**  
*Mahatma Gandhi Central University*

Dr. Aslam Khan is Associate Professor in Department of Gandhian and Peace Studies, Mahatma Gandhi Central University, Bihar-India. Prior to this, he served as Professor of International Relations and Dean & Head at Yobe State University, Nigeria, and also served as Associate Professor of IRs at Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia. Dr. Khan Also has been Peace Fellow at University of Western Australia, Perth. He also served Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh as Assistant Professor. Dr Khan has been been very actively engaged in his research pursuits concerning US and South Asia, Peace and Conflict, African Politics and Terrorism.



**Dr. Chandra Lal Pandey**  
*Kathmandu University*

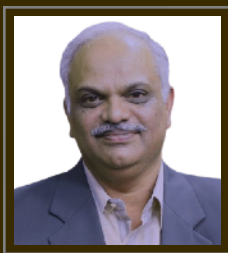
Dr. Chandra Lal Pandey is an Assistant Professor at Kathmandu University. He has over 15 years of working experience in South Asia, particularly India and Nepal. He has an extensive working experience in the fields of public policy focusing in the areas of political economy, environmental affairs and disaster governance. He earned his PhD and Post doctorate in Political Science and Public Policy from University of Waikato, New Zealand.



**Prof. Dr. Nivedita Das Kundu**  
*Bharat Centre of Canada and York University*

Dr. Nivedita Das Kundu is President at Bharat Center of Canada and Faculty at York University. She is Director of Canada-India Project for research and Innovation, York Centre for Asian Research. Prof. Kundu did her post-doctoral from Woodrow Wilson Centre for Scholars, US and she has toughed at several prestigious Universities. She has also worked at reputed think tanks like Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, Indian Council for World Affairs, Indian Council for Social Science Research, United Services Institution of India, Centre for Strategic Studies under President of Azerbaijan and was visiting fellow and research scholar with Moscow State Institute for International Relations, Institute for Oriental Studies, Institute for International Relations in University of Kiev and Sichuan University. She has authored two and edited eight books. Her accolades include prestigious state award "Pushkin Medal" and number of prestigious academic fellowships.





**Prof. Dr. Rajesh Rajagopalan**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Dr. Rajesh Rajagopalan is Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University. Previously, he was Senior Fellow at Observer Research Foundation and Research Fellow at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. He has taught at Hunter College, Brooklyn College, and Queens College of the City University of New York. His areas of research interest are international relations theory, military doctrines, and nuclear weapons and disarmament. His publications include three books: *Nuclear South Asia: Keywords and Concepts*; *Fighting like a Guerrilla: The Indian Army and Counterinsurgency*; and *Second Strike: Arguments about Nuclear War in South Asia*.



**Prof. Dr. Shen Dingli**

*Institute for International Studies, Fudan University.*

Prof. Dr. Shen Dingli is a Professor and Former Executive Dean at Fudan University's Institute of International Studies, and Former Director of Fudan's Center for American Studies. He is also an Honorary Visiting Professor of Washington University in St. Louis. He is Vice President of Chinese Association of South Asian Studies, and Shanghai Association of American Studies. He received his Ph.D. in physics from Fudan in 1989 and did post-doc in arms control at Princeton University from 1989-1991. He was an Eisenhower Fellow in 1996, and advised in 2002 the then UN Secretary General Kofi Annan for his strategic planning. He is on the Global Council of Asia Society. He has co-edited 17 books and published over 2,500 papers and articles worldwide.



**Dr. Zeno Leoni**

*Defence Academy UK, King's College London.*

Dr. Zeno Leoni is a Teaching Fellow in 'Challenges to the International Order' at the Defence Studies Department of King's College London, based within the Joint Services and Staff College of the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom. He is a Visiting Scholar in Defence and Security Studies at Nebrija University and affiliated to the Lau China Institute of King's College London. He has published a monograph titled 'American Grand Strategy from Obama to Trump: Imperialism After Bush and China's Hegemonic Challenge (Cham: Palgrave Macmillan)' and 'US-China competition in the MENA region'.



**Dr. Mehmet Ozkan**

*Executive Director of Maarif Foundation USA*

Dr. Mehmet Ozkan is Executive Director of Maarif Foundation USA in New York. He previously taught as Professor of International Relations at Turkish National Police Academy in Ankara, Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogota, Colombia; and International University of Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He has also served as Senior Fellow with the Center for Global Policy and researcher at SETA Foundation in Turkey; and a visiting researcher at Cairo University in Egypt and the Institute for Defence Studies and Analysis in India. Before he took up his position as Colombia-based Regional Director of Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency in Latin America (2015-2018), Dr. Ozkan was director of the International Center for Terrorism and Transnational Crime in Ankara. Dr. Ozkan holds a Ph.D. from Sevilla University (Spain) in International Relations. He is the author of several books, including “Foreign Policy After Tahrir Revolution: (Re-)Defining the Role of Egypt in the Middle East” (2011) and “Turkey’s Involvement in Somalia: A State-Building in Progress” (2014). He also published many articles in leading journals.



**Kabita Parajuli**

*Lawyer and Former Clean Slate Program Fellow, Harvard Law School*

Kabita is a lawyer currently engaged in corporate practice at a law firm in Kathmandu, Nepal. She is committed to using the law to build economic and racial justice, and supporting movements that have this goal. Her past practice, research, and writing have centered around matters of immigration law, workers rights and labor law, human rights, and education, in Nepal and the US. She was previously a Clean Slate Program Fellow with Harvard Law School’s Labor and Worklife Program. She holds a B.A. from Columbia University and a Juris Doctor from UCLA School of Law.



**Prof. Dr. Lakshman Dissanayake**

*Emeritus Professor and former VC, University of Colombo*

Prof. Lakshman Dissanayake is the Emeritus Professor and former Vice Chancellor at University of Colombo. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts in the UK. He founded the Colombo University Community Centre and is its founding Director. He has been honoured with various esteemed positions and has received awards both nationally and internationally. Prof. Dissanayake also served as the Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences of the Leeds Beckett University, UK, and as the Adjunct Member of the Australian Population and Migration Research Center in the University of Adelaide, Australia. His expertise includes regional demography, regional development planning, health demography and post-disaster reconstruction. He has published several books, book chapters and research articles at reputed journals.





**Prof. Dr. Rodolfo Casillas R.,**  
*Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences*

Rodolfo Casillas R., is a professor and researcher at the Latin American Faculty of Social Sciences (Flacso), academic headquarters of Mexico. He was Academic Secretary of the same Faculty and was also affiliated with El Colegio de México as a researcher and an Advisor to El Colegio de la Frontera Norte. Prof. Rodolfo also took the role of a consultant in different international agencies such as International Organization for Migration, the United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime, and others. His most recent book is entitled Social and Cultural Aspects of Human Trafficking in Mexico, and “Migrants passing through Mexico: a look at what the Trump presidency may bring” in 2018.



**Dr. S. Irudaya Rajan**  
*Chairman, International Institute of Migration and Development*

Dr. S. Irudaya Rajan is the Chairman at International Institute of Migration and Development and Professor at the Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram, India. He also acted as a Chair Professor at Research Unit on International Migration. He has coordinated seven major migration surveys undertaken several projects on international migration under support of European Union, International Labour Organization, International Development Research Centre, Canadian Institute of Health Research, World Bank, International Organization of Migration, South Asian Network of Economic Institutes, Rockefeller Foundation, UNESCO, among others. Dr. Rajan has worked closely with the Ministry of External Affairs and is the editor and Editor-in- Chief of the Annual Series India migration report and the International journal of migration and development brought out by Taylor and Francis, respectively.



**Prof. Dr. Rajai 'Ray' Jureidini**  
*College of Islamic Studies, Hamad Bin Khalifa University*

Dr. Ray Jureidini is Professor of Migration, Human Rights, and Ethics at CILE and the first-of-its-kind Master of Arts program in Applied Islamic Ethics at College of Islamic Studies. He also was a Co-founder and Vice-chairman of the Australian Arabic Council and Founder and Editor of the Journal of Arabic, Islamic and Middle East Studies. He taught at five universities in Australia and American University of Beirut. He was also Director of the Centre for Migration and Refugee Studies at the American University. Later, he joined Institute for Migration Studies at the Lebanese American University.



**Hari KC**  
*Wilfrid Laurier University.*

Hari KC is a doctoral candidate at Balsillie School of International Affairs, Wilfrid Laurier University. Hari worked for the BBC Media Action , as political analyst and media monitor at the Indian Embassy in Kathmandu and The Carter Center as an election observer during Nepal’s Constituent Assembly elections of 2008.





**Prof. Dr. Parvati Nair**  
*University of London*

Parvati Nair is Professor at Queen Mary University of London and formerly Founding Director of the United Nations University Institute on Globalization, Culture and Mobility in Barcelona, Spain. She has also represented the United Nations University at the Global Migration Group, and acted as Working Chair at the United Nations General Assembly in New York. Prof. Nair is currently head of the School of Languages, Linguistics and Film and has published extensively on photography as a mode of engaging with many socio-political issues relating to migration, such ethnicity, gender, urban spaces, borders, inequalities, environmental displacement, cultural memory and community.



**Prof. Dr. G. John Ikenberry**  
*Princeton School of Public and International Affairs.*

Dr. G. John Ikenberry is the Albert G. Milbank Professor of Politics and International Affairs at Princeton University in the Department of Politics and the Princeton School of Public and International Affairs. He is also Co-Director of Princeton's Center for International Security Studies and Global Eminence Scholar at Kyung Hee University in Seoul. Prof. Ikenberry was a Visiting Fellow at Oxford University and American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has authored eight books, mostly recently 'A World Safe for Democracy: Liberal Internationalism and the Crises of Global Order and Liberal Leviathan: The Origins, Crisis, and Transformation of the American System. His book, *After Victory: Institutions, Strategic Restraint, and the Rebuilding of Order after Major Wars* (Princeton, 2001), won the 2002 Schroeder-Jervis Award presented by the American Political Science Association for the best book in international history and politics. Professor Ikenberry also served as a member of the Policy Planning Staff at the State Department and as a member of the Council on Foreign Relations Task Force on U.S.-European relations. In a recent survey of international relations scholars, Ikenberry was ranked 10th in scholars who have produced the best work in the field of IR in the past 20 years, and ranked 8th in scholars who have produced the most interesting work in the past 5 years.



**Prof. Dr. Sumit Ganguly**  
*Distinguished Professor, Indiana University Bloomington.*

Prof. Sumit Ganguly is a Distinguished Professor of Political Science and holds the Rabindranath Tagore Chair in Indian Cultures and Civilizations at Indiana University, Bloomington. A specialist on the international and comparative politics of South Asia he is the author, co-author, editor or co-editor of at least twenty books on the region. His most recent books are *Deadly Impasse: India and Pakistan at the Dawn of a New Century* (Cambridge, 2016), *Ascending India and Its State Capacity* (Yale University Press, 2017) co-authored with William R. Thompson and *The Future of US-India Security Cooperation* edited with Christopher Mason (Manchester University Press, 2021) In 2018-2019 he was an Alexander von Humboldt Fellow at the South Asia Institute of the University of Heidelberg. Professor Ganguly is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is also a columnist for *Foreign Policy.com*





**Paul J. Saunders**

*Former Senior Advisor to the Under Secretary of State for Global Affairs*

Paul J Saunders served as Senior Advisor and Deputy Chief of Staff to the Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs, as Director of the Nixon Center and as a Senior Policy Advisor to the Speaker's Advisory Group on Russia of the U.S. House of Representatives. Saunders is the Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer of the Center for the National Interest and Associate Publisher of The National Interest. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Energy Innovation Reform Project. He is an expert on Russia, overseeing research on that country's foreign energy policy, foreign policy, national security policy and domestic politics, U.S.-Russian relations and climate change. Saunders is a frequent commentator for national broadcast and digital media and is a columnist for Al-Monitor, writing about Russia.



**Prof. Dr. Toshihiro Nakayama**

*Professor, Keio University*

Dr. Toshihiro Nakayama is a Professor of American Politics and Foreign Policy at the Faculty of Policy Management at Keio University. He is also a Senior Adjunct Fellow at the Japan Institute of International Affairs. He was a Special Correspondent for the Washington Post at the Far Eastern Bureau, Special Assistant at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations in New York, Senior Research Fellow at The Japan Institute of International Affairs, Associate Professor at Tsuda College and Professor at Aoyama Gakuin University. He was also a Visiting Fellow at the Brookings Institution, Sir Howard Kippenberger Chair Visiting Professor at the Center for Strategic Studies, Victoria University in Wellington , Japan Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson Center, and an Advisor to the Ministry of Defense. He has written two books and numerous articles on American politics, foreign policy and international relations. Recipient of Nakasone Yasuhiro Award (Incentive Award) in 2014.



**Dr. Namrata Goswami**

*Subject Matter Expert, Futures Lab*

Dr. Namrata Goswami is a subject matter expert in international affairs with the Futures Laboratory, Alabama, USA and guest lecturer, India Today Class, Emory University. She was Research Fellow at Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. She was Jennings-Randolph Senior Fellow at the United States Institute of Peace, Fulbright-Nehru Senior Fellow and has participated in the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies NATO Partnership for Peace Consortium 'Emerging Security Challenges Working Group.' She received the Executive Leadership Certificate from Harvard Kennedy School of Government, National Defence University, and the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies. She has published 'The Naga Ethnic Movement for a Separate Homeland Stories from the Field' and 'Great Power Competition in Outer' space' is forthcoming.



**Prof. Dr. Glenn Diesen**  
*University of South-Eastern Norway*

Glenn Diesen is a Professor at the Higher School of Economics in Moscow, and an Adjunct Research Fellow at Western Sydney University. Diesen's research focus includes Russian foreign policy, and the geoeconomics of European and Eurasian integration. Diesen's latest books include: 'EU and NATO relations with Russia: After the Collapse of the Soviet Union', 'Russia's Geoeconomic Strategy for a Greater Eurasia' and 'The Decay of Western Civilisation and Resurgence of Russia: Between Gemeinschaft and Gesellschaft'.



**Dr. Ariel Gonzalez Levaggi**  
*Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina*

Dr. Ariel Gonzalez Levaggi is an Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Pontifical Catholic University of Argentina and Consulting Member at Argentine Council for International Relations. He holds PhD in International Relations and Political Science from Koç University, Turkey. Some of his recent works include "Confrontational and Cooperative Regional Orders: Managing Regional Security in World Politics" (Routledge, 2020), "The return of Moscow: Russia's grand strategy in the Putin era (2000-2020)" (Foro Internacional, 2020) and "Crossing Roads: Middle East's security engagement in the Horn of Africa" (Global Change, Peace and Security Journal, 2021).



**Dr. Prakash Bhattarai**  
*Director, Centre for Social Change*

Dr. Prakash Bhattarai is the Director of Centre for Social Change. He holds PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies from the University of Otago, New Zealand has been a visiting research scholar at the Department of Peace and Conflict Research, Uppsala University, Sweden and at Peace Research Institute Frankfurt, Germany. He has two decades of research experience and has taken leadership role at Youth Action Nepal, Association of Youth Organizations in Nepal, and Collective Campaign for Peace. He has worked with several international organisations and published several articles in peer reviewed journals.



**Prof. Dr. Krishna Hachhethu**  
*Tribhuvan University*

Prof. Dr. Krishna Hachhethu is the Professor of Political Science at Tribhuvan University. He was a Visiting Scholar, at Wolfson College, University of Oxford, UK. He has been an international observer for provincial elections in Sri Lanka in the year 1993 and UN Observer for General Elections in South Africa in the year 1994. Dr. Hachhethu has authored several books such as Party Building in Nepal: Organization, Leadership and People, A Comparative Study of the Nepali Congress and the Communist Party of Nepal and Co-authored, Nepal: Local Leadership and Governance, Women and Governance: Re-imagining the State from Gender Perspective among others. Besides, he has published several scholarly articles in journal and various publications.





**Prof. Dr. Ganga Bahadur Thapa**

*Tribhuvan University*

Prof. Ganga Bahadur Thapa is a Professor of Political Science, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal. Currently, he is also the President of the Centre for Democracy and Conflict Analysis Nepal (CEDCAN) and Nepal Political Science Association. Over the years he has analysed various shades of Nepali politics in the form of articles, book chapters, lectures, colloquia, and conference deliberations in Nepal and, Princeton Univ.; The Univ. of Tokyo; Univ. of Seoul, Woodrow Wilson Intl. Centre of Scholars DC, Santa Fe Institute at New Mexico, Institute of Far Eastern Studies, etc. His major areas of interests include democracy, election, conflict and party studies.



**Rakesh Mishra**

*Executive Director, North South Collectives*

Rakesh Mishra is Executive Director of North South Collectives. He is also an agricultural economist who has more than two decades of working experience with different agencies of the United Nations and government on development and peace building practices. He is more experienced with grassroots engagements and community development with focus on humanitarian, developmental, and governance issues. He has proven expertise in coordinating with team members, planners, partners and policy makers, and in conducting context-specific analyses on socio-economic and political themes. He is now executive director of North South Collectives.



**Dr. Savitree Thapa Gurung**

*Tribhuvan University and Former Commissioner at CIAA*

Dr. Savitree Thapa Gurung is an Associate Professor at Department of Political Science, Ratna Rajya Laxmi Campus, Tribhuvan University. Recently she also held the position of Commissioner at Commission for the Investigation of Abuse of Authority (CIAA). Previously, she also worked as a member in 'State Restructuring Recommendation High-Level Commission', to recommend about federating the country. She holds a PhD in Political Science from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.



**Dr. Happymon Jacob**

*Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Dr. Happymon Jacob is an Associate Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Prior to this, he taught at University of Jammu and Jamia Millia Islamia. He was visiting fellow/ professor at Hokkaido University, Fondation Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Paris, Sandia National Laboratories, University of Ottawa, Melbourne University and others. Dr. Jacob serves as member of the International Governing Council of the Nobel Peace Prize-winning Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs. He has several publications including *The Line of Control: Travelling with the Indian and Pakistani Armies* and *Line on Fire: Ceasefire Violations and India-Pakistan Escalation Dynamics*.



**Prof. Dr. John Blaxland**

*International Security and Intelligence Studies, Australian National University*

Prof. John Blaxland is Professor of International Security and Intelligence Studies, Strategic and Defence Studies Centre at the Australian National University and a former military intelligence officer. His publications include: *The US-Thai Alliance and Asian International Relations* (2021); *Niche Wars: Australia in Afghanistan and Iraq, 2001-2014* (2020); *In From The Cold: Reflections on Australia's Korean War* (2020); *A Geostrategic SWOT Analysis for Australia* (2019); *The Secret Cold War* (2016); *East Timor Intervention* (2015); *The Protest Years* (2015); *The Australian Army From Whitlam to Howard* (2014); *Strategic Cousins* (2006); *Revisiting Counterinsurgency* (2006); *Information era Manoeuvre* (2003); *Signals* (1998); and *Organising an Army* (1989).



**Prof. Dr. Yoichiro Sato**

*College of Asian Pacific Studies, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University*

Prof. Yoichiro Sato is Dean of College of Asian Pacific Studies, Ritsumeikan Asia Pacific University. He was a Henneback Visiting Scholar and Professor at the Colorado School of Mines. He taught at the U.S. Department of Defense's Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies, Auckland University (New Zealand), Kansai Gaidai Hawaii College, and University of Hawaii. His major works include *Japan in A Dynamic Asia* (co-edited with Satu Limaye, Lexington Books, 2006), *Norms, Interests, and Power in Japanese Foreign Policy* (co-edited with Keiko Hirata, Palgrave, 2008), *The Rise of China and International Security* (co-edited with Kevin Cooney, Routledge, 2008), and *The US-Japan Security Alliance: Regional Multilateralism* (co-edited with Takashi Inoguchi and G. John Ikenberry, Palgrave, 2013).



**Dr. Ernest Gunasekara-Rockwell**

*Editor in Chief of Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs and Director of Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers.*

Dr. Ernest Gunasekara-Rockwell (PhD, University of Wisconsin) is the editor in chief of the *Journal of Indo-Pacific Affairs* and director of the Consortium of Indo-Pacific Researchers. Prior to standing up the journal, he was the acting director and managing editor of Air University Press and the acting dean of the Air Force Research Institute. Earlier, he served as a human intelligence collector and Korean linguist for the US Army. He has taught at various institutions of higher learning in the United States and was an assistant professor in the Technology Integration Division at the Defense Language Institute–Foreign Language Center.



**Cleo Paskal**

*Associate Fellow, Chatam House*

Cleo Paskal's affiliations include: Associate Fellow, Chatham House (Royal Institute of International Affairs), UK; Non-Resident Senior Fellow for the Indo-Pacific, Foundation for Defense of Democracies, US; Senior Fellow, Usanas Foundation, India; International Board of Advisors, Global Counter Terrorism Council, India; International Board of Advisors, Kalinga Institute of Indo-Pacific Studies, India; Visiting Fellow, Centre d'études et de recherches internationales de l'Université de Montréal (CÉRIUM). She is widely published

in the academic and popular press and led Chatham House's project on perceptions of strategic shifts in the Indo-Pacific from the points of view of India, the US, Japan, Oceania, the UK, France and China.

**Dr. Satoru Nagao**

*Hudson Institute*

Dr. Satoru Nagao was Visiting Fellow (now non-resident fellow) at Hudson Institute. He had worked with several reputed organizations such as Institute for Future Engineering, Gakushuin University, Japan Forum for Strategic Studies, Security and Strategy Research Institute for Japan, Institute of National Security Studies Sri Lanka, Indian Military Review, Center for Strategic and International

Studies of US, Tokyo Foundation and the Ocean Policy Research Foundation in Tokyo. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Research Institute for Oriental Cultures at Gakushuin University, and worked as lecturer at Gakushuin University, Aoyama-Gakuin University and Komazawa University. He was also a security analyst at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and a first lieutenant of the Japan Ground Self Defense Forces. Dr. Nagao has authored numerous books and articles at reputed journals and newspapers.

**Atul K Thakur**

*India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI & Visiting Fellow, NIICE*

Atul K Thakur is a Visiting Fellow at NIICE and is a New Delhi based Public Policy Professional (Deputy Secretary, State Development Council & Nodal Coordinator, India-Nepal Centre, PHDCCI) and Columnist with specialisation in the interface of economics and politics. His books are included *India Now and in Transition* (2017) and *India since 1947: Looking Back at a Modern Nation* (2013).

**Ram Prasad Subedi**

*Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Nepal in India*

Ram Prasad Subedi is the Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM) at the Embassy of Nepal in India. He joined Civil Service in 2002 as Scientific Officer/Chemist and served under Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies of Government of Nepal. In 2011, he served as the Director at the South Asia & SAARC Division and North East Asia, South East Asia and Pacific Division.

Prior to being promoted as the DCM at the Embassy of Nepal in New Delhi, Mr. Subedi acted as the Joint Secretary/ Head of Regional Organization Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.





**Yumiko Asakuma**

*Chief Representative, JICA Nepal Office*

Yumiko Asakuma is Chief Representative for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Nepal Office. Prior to this assignment Asakuma worked as Director General in Yokohama Centre, JICA. She began her career in JICA in 1993 in the social development cooperation department and diversified her work experience in various departments of JICA office which includes Industrial and mining development study, grant aid cooperation, training group and representative of JICA India office. She has also served as a Chief Representative of JICA Bhutan. Asakuma is a graduate from Osaka Prefectural University in Department of Integrated Arts & Sciences.



**Prof. Dr. Bishwambher Pyakuryal**

*Former Nepalese Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives*

Prof. Bishwambher Pyakuryal is former Nepalese Ambassador to Sri Lanka and Maldives. He has been associated with East-West Center, Honolulu; Rockefeller Foundation in Italy; and IFPRI in Washington, D.C. He is Chairman of inter-governmental organization South Asia Co-operative Environment Program and member of the governing council of Colombo Plan. Prof. Pyakuryal is a President of Nepal Economic Association; founding Chairman of Institute for Strategic and Socio-Economic Research and has been a member of the board of Nepal's Central Bank; Chairman of High-level Public Expenditure Commission of the government of Nepal; a Commissioner of the Independent South Asian Commission on Poverty Alleviation, SAARC. He has taught Economics at Tribhuvan University and completed Post-Doctoral Research in Economics from the University of Maryland at College Park, USA. Prof. Pyakuryal has co-authored and edited Thirteen books and published hundreds of research articles and worked with several international organisations.



**Sushil Bhatta**

*CEO, Investment Board Nepal*

Sushil Bhatta has more than 17 years of professional experience in managing infrastructure projects, financial institutions and development organizations. Prior to the CEO of Office of Investment Board Nepal, Mr. Bhatta was a Member of the National Planning Commission where he was responsible for Physical Infrastructure and Transport, Urban Development, National Project Bank, Public Private Partnership, Project and Sustainable Development Goals 9, 11. Mr. Bhatta was honored for his contribution with the prestigious Prabal Janasewa Shree from the Government of Nepal in the category of "Management Expert" (2017/18). Similarly, he was conferred with the "CEO with HR Orientation Award" at the 26th Edition of the Times Ascent World HRD Congress 2018 in India.



**Dr. Chandan Sapkota**

*Economist*

Dr. Chandan Sapkota is an economist. He used to work for Asian Development Bank's Nepal Resident Mission; South Asia Watch on Trade, Economics and Environment in Kathmandu; and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, DC, among others. He has also worked as a consultant for the government and several development agencies, and is featured in national and international media. He regularly contributes opinion articles on economic issues for *The Kathmandu Post*. Sapkota holds a PhD in development economics from National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies.





**Dr. Manish Thapa**  
*University of Warsaw*

Dr. Manish Thapa is Visiting Research Professor at University of Warsaw and heads Global Equity Fund in Nepal. He was Head of Department and Professor of Peace and Security Studies at United Nations University for Peace, Costa Rica and has served at several universities and institutes in Europe and North America such as Brown University, Uppsala University and others. Dr. Thapa received his Post-Doc from University of Warsaw and Doctoral Degree in International Relations from University of Tokyo. He has published numerous books, journal articles and book chapters with leading publishers and journals. His recent publications include; Palgrave Encyclopaedia of Global Security Studies, (Chief Editor), From Bullet to Ballot – Peace-making and Peace building in Nepal: Lessons Learned and Unlearned, (Editor & Contributor), Internal Conflicts & Peace building Challenges and India in the Contemporary World. He is one of the founding members of Department of Conflict, Peace & Development Studies at Tribhuvan University.



**Dr. Amit Ranjan**  
*Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore*

Dr. Amit Ranjan is a Research Fellow at the Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. His research interests include Water Disputes, South Asian politics (India, Bangladesh, Maldives and Pakistan), India's regional policy and India's internal security. His latest book is *Contested Waters: India's Transboundary River Water Disputes in South Asia* (2020) Routledge. He is also author of *India-Bangladesh Border Disputes: History and Post-LBA Dynamics* (2018) Springer. Amit has edited the following books: *India in South Asia Challenges and Management* (2019) Springer, *Partition of India: Postcolonial Legacies* (2019) Routledge, and *Water Issues in Himalayan South Asia: Internal Challenges, Disputes and Transboundary Tensions*, Palgrave. His papers, review essays and book reviews have been widely published in journals, including Asian Survey, Asian Affairs, Asian Ethnicity, Economic & Political Weekly, India Review, Indian Journal of Public Administration, India Quarterly, Journal of Migration Affairs, Journal of the Indian Ocean Region, Roundtable: The Commonwealth Journal of International Affairs, Social Change, Studies in Indian Politics, Society and Culture in South Asia, South Asia Research, Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs, and World Water Policy.



**Amb. Rakesh Sood**  
*Former Indian Diplomat*

Ambassador Rakesh Sood is a former Indian diplomat, columnist, writer and expert on foreign affairs. He was appointed special envoy for disarmament and non-proliferation and has served as India's Ambassador to Afghanistan, Nepal, France, Monaco and Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva. He has also served as Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India in Washington DC, First Secretary and Counsellor in India's High Commission in Islamabad and First Secretary in the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations Offices in Geneva, apart from serving in India's diplomatic missions in Brussels and Dakar. He has also served as Joint Secretary, Disarmament and International Security Affairs Division at Ministry of External Affairs.





**Prof. Dr. Sangeeta Thapliyal**  
*Professor Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Dr. Sangeeta Thapliyal is the professor at Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of international Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She works on strategic issues concerning South Asia with a special reference to Nepal. Her areas of research and interest includes India's strategic interests in the Himalayas and Trans-Himalayas, India's relations with Nepal, Bhutan, Tibet, South Asian Security and Water Security in South Asia. Her previous work experience includes Director, Department of Strategic and Regional Studies, University of Jammu, Observer Research Foundation, Delhi Policy Group and Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses.



**Dr. Avinash Godbole**  
*Associate Professor and Assistant Dean, OP Jindal Global University*

Dr. Avinash Godbole is an Associate Professor and Assistant Dean at Jindal School of Liberal Arts and Humanities, OP Jindal Global University, India. Previously he was Research Fellow at the Indian Council of World Affairs, Research Assistant at Manohar Parrikar Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses, Visiting Fox Fellow at the Macmillan Center at Yale and Visiting Faculty at the Naval War College. Dr. Godbole has been part of the India-China Think tank Forum and has been involved in various other track 1.5 and track 2 events. He has published extensively in academic and media publications.



**Dr. Constantino Xavier**  
*Centre for Social and Economic Progress*

Dr. Constantino Xavier is a Fellow at Centre for Social and Economic Progress, and a Non-resident Fellow at the Brookings Institution. He leads the Sambandh Initiative on Regional Connectivity and currently he is working on a book on how democratic values influence India's foreign policy, with case studies on Nepal, Sri Lanka and Myanmar based on new archival sources and interviews. He holds PhD from Johns Hopkins University. He is also part of several policy dialogues between India, the European Union and other Indo-Pacific powers, and frequently comments for the media.



**Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh**  
*Deputy Director General, Institute for Southeast Asian Studies*

Dr. Vo Xuan Vinh is the Deputy Director General of Institute for Southeast Asian Studies, Vietnam Academy of Social Sciences, Hanoi. He is also the Director of Centre for Australia and New Zealand Studies. His fields of expertise include Politics, security and international relations in Indo-Pacific, Maritime security in Southeast Asia, Politics of Thailand and Democratization in Myanmar, India's Look/Act East Policy and Administrative Reforms in Vietnam. He has contributed research papers and conference papers for several journals and research institutes.





**Dr. Sreeradha Datta**

*Vivekananda International Foundation*

Dr. Sreeradha Datta is Centre Head & Senior Fellow, Neighbourhood Studies at Vivekananda International Foundation. She is also Non-Resident Senior Fellow, Institute for South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore. research focus is on regional organisations, and issues concerning borders, migrations, waters across the South Asian and South East Asian neighborhood. Former director of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Institute of Asian Studies, Kolkata, she has also been a Fellow with Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses, New Delhi. She has been recipient of international fellowships including at German Institute of Global Affairs, Distinguished Indian Scholar Series University of Taiwan, International Leadership Visitors Programme, at USA, awarded the Shelton Kodikara Award for South Asian Strategic Studies. She continues to serve on the academic boards of several Universities and think tanks.



**Dr. Nicolas Blarel**

*Institute of Political Science, Leiden University*

Dr. Nicolas Blarel is Associate Professor of International Relations at the Institute of Political Science, Leiden University in The Netherlands. He has worked on South Asia and published *The Evolution of India's Israel Policy: Continuity, Change, and Compromise since 1922* (Oxford University Press, 2015). Nicolas also recently co-edited the *Oxford Handbook of India's National Security* (Oxford University Press, 2018). He has worked with the French Foreign Ministry's policy planning staff and has been a visiting fellow at various research institutions such as Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Carnegie-India, the Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), and the Centre de Sciences Humaines . Dr. Blarel received his PhD from Indiana University, Bloomington and is Associate Editor at *Indian Politics and Policy* and the Co-Chair of the South Asia in World Politics.



**Dr. Niklas Swanstrom**

*Director, Institute of Security and Development Policy*

Dr. Niklas Swanström is Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy. He is a Fellow at the Foreign Policy Institute of the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies and a Senior Associate Research Fellow at the Italian Institute for International Political Studies. Dr. Swanström has authored, co-authored or edited a number of books, including: *Eurasia's ascent in Energy and geopolitics*, *Sino-Japanese Relations: The need for Conflict Prevention and Management*, *Transnationell brottslighet: ett säkerhetshot?* (Trans-national Crime: A security Threat?), *Regional Cooperation and Conflict Management: Lessons from the Pacific Rim and Foreign Devils*, *Dictatorship or Institutional Control: China 's foreign policy towards Southeast Asia*. He has worked extensively on Chinese foreign policy and security in Northeast Asia, Belt and Road Initiative and has also been a student at Beijing Languages Institute, Beijing University and Dalian Languages University.



**Amb. Nalin Surie**

*Distinguished Fellow, Delhi Policy Group and Former Ambassador/ High Commissioner to China, Poland and the UK*

Ambassador Nalin Surie, Indian Foreign Service (1973-2011), served in Indian missions in Hong Kong, Brussels, Dar-es-Salaam and Thimphu and subsequently as India's DPR to UN (New York), Ambassador to China & Poland, High Commissioner to UK and Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs, 2015-2018. In GOI, worked at the Department of Economic Affairs. In the Foreign Office, headed the East Europe division at the end of the Cold War and East Asia division during the emergence of China on the global stage. As Secretary, was responsible for Europe, Canada, Africa and Latin America.



**Dr. Do Thanh Hai**

*DCM, Vietnam Embassy in New Delhi*

Dr. Do Thanh Hai is Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Vietnam in India. He was previously a Senior Fellow and Assistant Director General at the East Sea Institute at the Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam. He obtained his doctorate from the Australian National University. He published on *The Pacific Review*, *The ASAN Forum*, *CSIS PacNet*, *Journal of International Review* (DAV) and a number of news outlets. He has authored a book *Vietnam and the South China Sea: Politics, Security and Legality*. His latest book is *The South China Sea: From Regional Maritime Dispute to Geostatetgic Competition*, co-edited with Prof. Leszek Buszynski. His upcoming book is *Maritime Issues and Regional Order in Indo-Pacific*.



**Dr. Ngeow Chow-Bing**

*Director, Institute of China Studies, University of Malaya*

Dr. Ngeow Chow-Bing is Director of the Institute of China Studies at the University of Malaya. He has also been appointed a Special Senior Research Fellow at the National Institute for Global Strategy, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and served as a delegate of the Southeast Asian Young Leaders Programme at the Institute of International and Strategic Studies. Dr. Ngeow received his PhD in Public and International Affairs from Northeastern University. His scholarly articles on China have appeared in several peer-reviewed journals and has published four edited/coedited books: *Zhenghe Forum: Connecting China with the Muslim World*, *Southeast Asia and China: Exercises in Mutual Socialization*, *Rising China*, *Resilient Japan*, *Resourceful ASEAN: Selected Writings of Lee Poh Ping on East Asian International Relations* and *Researching China in Southeast Asia*.





**Prof. Dr. Goran Ilik**

*Dean, Faculty of Law, University in Bitola*

Dr. Goran Ilik is a full professor and Dean of the Faculty of Law at “St. Kliment Ohridski” University in Bitola (North Macedonia). He is author of the books: “Europe at the crossroads: The Treaty of Lisbon as a basis of European Union international identity”, “EUtopia: the international political power of the EU in the process of ideologization of the post-American world”, and “International relations and the European Union: Values before Power”. Dr. Goran Ilik is co-founder of the Institute for Research and European Studies – Bitola and Editor-in-Chief of the international academic journal “Journal of Liberty and International Affairs”.



**Dr. Rommel C. Banlaoi**

*President, Philippine Association for Chinese Studies*

Dr. Rommel C. Banlaoi is President of the Philippine Association for Chinese Studies, a member of the Management Board of the World Association for Chinese Studies and a member of the Board of Directors of the China-Southeast Asia Research Center on the South China Sea. He is a Professorial Lecturer at the International Studies Department of Miriam College and an Adjunct Professor at the National Institute for South China Sea Studies while serving as a member of the International Panel of Experts of the Maritime Awareness Project of the National Bureau of Asian Research and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation based in Washington DC. He was a fellow of the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies, Hawaii. He is also the Chairman of the Philippine Institute for Peace, Violence and Terrorism Research while serving as the President of the Philippine Society for Intelligence and Security Studies. He earned his PhD in International Relations at Jinan University, China. He has numerous publications on his credit.



**Prof. Dr. Sharad K. Soni**

*Chairperson, Centre for Inner Asian Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University*

Prof. Dr. Sharad K Soni is Chairperson at Centre for Inner Asian Studies, School of International Studies and Director, International Collaboration, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. His research interests lie in Inner Asian/Eurasian Studies with a focus on issues concerning the geopolitics of the region; identity and migration, regional security, as well as history, culture and politics of Mongolia and China's Inner Mongolia. He has been Visiting Scholar/Professor at University of Cambridge, UK; Peking University, Shandong University and Sichuan University, China; Eurasian National University, Kazakhstan; Mongolian Academy of Sciences, Mongolia; and Indiana University, USA. He is a Book Review Editor for South Asia, *Asian Ethnicity Journal* (Routledge) and Editorial Board Member of several reputed journals. He has to his credit six books including *Mongolia Today: Internal Changes and External Linkages* and over 100 articles/research papers/chapters published in journals and edited volumes. A recipient of ASIA Fellows Award he was also conferred with the prestigious *Nairamdal* Medal by a decree of the President of Mongolia in 2015 for his contribution to Mongolian Studies.



**Dr. Stuti Bhatnagar**  
*University of New South Wales*

Dr. Stuti Bhatnagar is associated with University of New South Wales, Sydney and is an adjunct fellow at the University of Adelaide. She serves as the Executive Officer, South Asian Studies Association of Australia and as the Social Media Editor for South Asia: Journal of South Asian Studies. With a PhD in politics and international relations from the University of Adelaide, her research has focused on foreign policy analysis and the role of non-state actors in the context of India and the wider South Asian region. She has several academic publications to her credit and her recent book is titled *India's Pakistan Policy: How Think Tanks Are Shaping Foreign Relations* and was published by Routledge in 2020.



**Dr. Zahid Shahab Ahmed**  
*Deakin University*

Dr. Zahid Shahab Ahmed is a Research Fellow at Alfred Deakin Institute for Citizenship and Globalization, Deakin University. Dr Ahmed is an expert on peace and security in South Asia. During 2017-19, he was a non-resident research fellow with the University of Southern California's Center on Public Diplomacy. Prior to joining Deakin University in April 2016, he was Assistant Professor at the Centre for International Peace and Stability, National University of Sciences and Technology, Pakistan. He has extensive experience carrying out fieldwork in South Asia, in particular Pakistan. He is the author of *Regionalism and Regional Security in South Asia: The Role of SAARC* (Abingdon: Routledge, 2013). His work has been published in reputable international journals, such as *Civil Wars*, *Middle East Policy*, *Asian Studies Review*, *Third World Quarterly*, and *Territory, Politics, Governance*.



**Mari-Liis Sulg**  
*Program Manager, Estonian School of Diplomacy*

Mari-Liis Sulg is a Program Manager at Estonian School of Diplomacy. She is a PhD candidate at the Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies, University of Tartu, Estonia. Her research focuses on small states foreign policymaking in the post-Cold War period, in particular, Estonian foreign policy. She has delivered trainings on foreign policy reasoning techniques and lectures on the Baltic states in international politics at Estonian School of Diplomacy.



**Dr. Suman Acharya**  
*Assistant Director, Nepal Rastra Bank*

Dr. Suman Acharya is Assistant Director at Nepal Rastra Bank, the central Bank of Nepal. He has specialized in International Law, international trade and business. He also worked as visiting professor at different law colleges of Nepal. He has continuously published research articles in national and international journals since 2005. He has also received licenses under Nepal Bar Council and Nepal Notary Public Council and is working as a legal professional.

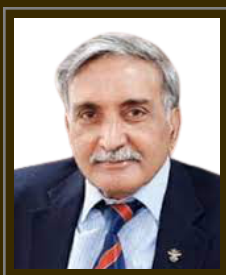




### **Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale**

*In-Charge, Department of Foreign Affairs, Bharatiya Janata Party*

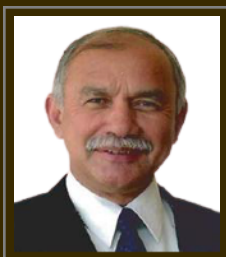
Dr. Vijay Chauthaiwale is In-Charge, Department of Foreign Affairs, Bharatiya Janata Party, since November 2014. Dr. Chauthaiwale is Ph.D. (Microbiology) from University of Pune, India with 4 years of experience as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at National Institutes of Health, USA. In 2011, Dr. Chauthaiwale participated in 2014 Lok Sabha election campaign (February-June 2014) by taking sabbatical from his professional work. He was stationed in the BJP Headquarters in New Delhi for campaign coordination. He is a member of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh since his childhood. He also served on the Board of Studies of Indian universities. He is a co-editor of two books entitled “Hindutva in Present Context” (2009) and “The Modi Doctrine: New Paradigms in India’s Foreign Policy” (August 2016 ) released by Minister of External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj. He is coordinating Indian Diaspora worldwide through Overseas Friends of BJP which has chapters in more than 40 countries, He is also serving as member of different committees, boards and advisory groups. He has authored peer reviewed scientific papers in international journals and is a co-inventor of several global patents. He is also a regular columnist on various national and international issues. His columns are published in The Asian Age, Indian Express, The Print, The Quint and vernacular media.



### **Lt. Gen Dr. Vijay Kumar Ahluwalia, PVSM, AVSM, YSM, VSM (Retd)**

*Director, Centre for Land Warfare Studies*

Lt. Gen (Dr.) Vijay Kumar Ahluwalia is Director of Centre for Land Warfare Studies. He retired as the General Officer Commanding in Chief (Army Commander), Central Command and was appointed as Member, Armed Forces Tribunal (AFT), Jaipur Bench. General has been a keen aviator and has flown helicopters in all operational environments in India. As a Brigadier, he was responsible for Indian troops, staff and military observers deployed in various United Nations Peace Keeping Missions in Africa, Middle East, Central America. Later, he also served as the Director General Military Training of the Indian Army. Besides a number of articles, General has also authored a book, “Red Revolution 2020 and beyond, Strategic Challenges to Resolve Naxalism ”.



### **AIG Rabi Raj Thapa (Retd.)**

*Former AIG of Armed Police Force*

AIG Rabi Raj Thapa is former Additional Inspector General, Nepal Armed Police Force. He is also a Chief Academic Program Coordinator at APF Command & Staff College, Kathmandu. AIG Thapa holds 23 years of experience with Nepal Police and 8 years with Armed Police Force. He specializes on Police Administration and Law Enforcement and Narcotic Drugs Prevention and Control. Previously, he has worked as Deputy Superintendent of Police, Criminal Investigation Department; Director, Drug Advisory Program, The Colombo Plan Secretariat and Chief of the Immigration Office, where he was responsible for non-residential visas, trekking permits and immigration control all over Nepal. For five years, he was Aide-de-Comp of late King Birendra Bir Bikram Saha Dev and the Royal Family. He also served as the Security Advisor to the Ministry of Home Affairs and Head of the APF to the National Security Council Secretariat.





**Prof. Dr. Deepak Prakash Bhatt**

*Member of Parliament of Nepal and Security Expert*

Dr. Deepak Prakash Bhatt is an elected Member of House of Representatives at Federal Parliament of Nepal. He is a Member of International Affairs Committee of the Federal Parliament of Nepal. Dr. Bhatt holds PhD from the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Previously, he served as a member of High-Level Task Force on Reorienting Nepal's Foreign Policy, headed by Minister for Foreign Affairs and as a member of Technical Committee and Secretariat formed for Supervision, Integration and Rehabilitation of Maoist Army Combatants. He is a Visiting Faculty at Tribhuvan University, Nepali Army Higher Command and Management Course, Army Command and Staff College, Institute of Crisis Management Studies and APF Command and Staff College of Nepal. He has also participated at the DKI Asia Pacific Center for Strategic Studies, Hawaii, Study of United States Institutes on Foreign Policy, HMG Security and Justice Course at University of Birmingham, and Advanced Level Course on Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Course of Transition International, the Netherlands.



**Lt. Gen. Dr. Rakesh Sharma PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, VSM (Retd.)**

*Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Land Warfare Studies*

Lt. Gen (Dr.) Rakesh Sharma is Distinguished Fellow at Centre for Land Warfare Studies. He has extensive operational experience in Jammu and Kashmir, North East and on the Western Borders. He trained the Botswana Army for three years in Africa, and attended the National War College at Abuja, Nigeria. Lt Gen Dr. Sharma had attended the NDC at New Delhi and was Research Fellow at Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses. General Sharma commanded the Fire and Fury Corps in Ladakh responsible for Kargil, Siachin Glacier and Eastern Ladakh – facing both Pakistan and China. He has been awarded with Param Vashisht Seva Medal, Uttam Yudh Seva Medal, Ati Vashisht Seva Medal and Vashisht Seva Medal. He regularly writes for newspapers and military journals.



**Asanga Abeyagoonasekera**

*Security and Geopolitics Analyst*

Asanga is an International Security and Geopolitics Analyst and Strategic Advisor from Sri Lanka. He was Founding Director General of Institute of National Security Studies and Executive Director at Lakshman Kadirgamar Institute of International Relations and Strategic Studies. He is the author of 'Sri Lanka at Crossroads', 'Towards A Better World Order' (2015). He is a keen commentator on Geopolitics, and 'Conundrum of an Island'. He has also served as Visiting Professor at Geopolitics and Global Leadership and Colombo University. He is an Alumnus of the US State Department IVLP, National Defense University (NESA, NDU), APCSS (Hawaii) and Young Global Leader World Economic Forum (Geneva). In 2021 Asanga was appointed to the Global Advisory Council at Apolitical Academy Global along with former New Zealand Prime Minister Helen Clark.





### **Geja Sharma Wagle**

*Security Expert*

Geja Sharma Wagle is Security and strategic affairs scholar and research fellow at University of Birmingham, UK. He has served as an advisor to the Prime Minister and consultant for DFID, UK. He is faculty of the Nepal Army command and Staff College and Army Higher Command and Management Course in Kathmandu. Mr. Wagle has coedited 'Emerging Security Challenges of Nepal 2010 and Human Security in Nepal: Concepts, Issues and Challenges 2013. He has also written a chapter each for two books entitled – 'Changing Security Dynamics in Nepal' on 'role of National Security Council in national security policy making' and 'Challenges of controlling Nepal Army on 'security challenges of Nepal'. He regularly contributes articles for newspapers.



### **Prof. Shahab Enam Khan**

*Director, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute and Visiting Fellow at NIICE*

Prof. Shahab Enam Khan is Director, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute and Visiting Fellow at NIICE. He is also serving at the Department of International Relations at Jahangirnagar University. He has served as Advisor/ International Consultant/ Board Members of various international organizations. He also serves as a member of several high-level committees formed by the Government of Bangladesh and is credited for drafting several key public policy documents. He has also engaged with University of Delaware, USA and University of Birmingham, UK, NESAC Center, National Defense University, Washington DC, and Hainan Institute of World Watch, China.



### **Amb. Rajiv Bhatia**

*Distinguished Fellow, Gateway House and Former Indian Ambassador to Myanmar*

Ambassador Rajiv Bhatia is Distinguished Fellow at Gateway House. He was the Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs and served as Ambassador to Myanmar and Mexico and as High Commissioner to Kenya, South Africa and Lesotho. He was Senior Visiting Research Fellow at the Institute of South East Asian Studies, Singapore and is a founding member of the Kalinga International Foundation. He is also Chair of Core Group of Experts on BIMSTEC and member of governing council of Asian Confluence. He has published 'India in Global Affairs: Perspectives from Sapru House' and 'India-Myanmar Relations: Changing contours'.



### **Dr. Piti Srisangnam**

*Director for Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University*

Dr. Piti Srisangnam is Director for Academic Affairs, ASEAN Studies Center, Chulalongkorn University and Assistant Professor of Economics, Faculty of Economics, Chulalongkorn University. He also served as Deputy Director for Academic Affairs of the Centre for European Studies. He was awarded with 2019 Royal Thai Government Scholarships Association Award: Rising Star. He holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from the University of Melbourne and has published several papers in journals.





**Amb. Dr. Sheel Kant Sharma**  
*Former Secretary General, SAARC*

Dr. Sheel Kant Sharma is Distinguished Fellow, Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi. He was the ninth Secretary General of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and India's Ambassador to Austria, Permanent Representative to the UN Office in Vienna and IAEA. He has co-authored the UN Report on Verification and UN Report on Defensive Security Concepts, UNIDIR Monograph on Verification of Fissile Materials Cut-Off and Non-use of Nuclear Weapons, article in the IAEA Bulletin and presented paper at the Pugwash Conference on Energy in Malta. He regularly contributes articles in newspapers and periodicals.



**Amb. Ahmed Saleem**  
*Ambassador-at-Large at Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Maldives*

Ambassador Ahmed Saleem is the Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He served as the High Commissioner of the Maldives to Pakistan, with non-resident accreditation to Nepal as Ambassador. He had served in Maldives' diplomatic missions including in Colombo, Sri Lanka and New York. He also served as the first Maldives Director in the SAARC Secretariat from 1990 to 1993 and as Secretary-General from 2012 to 2014. As the first President of the autonomous Human Rights Commission of the Maldives, he oversaw the country's first democratic multi-party elections in 2008 and played a key role during the democratic transition of the country. In his 53 years long service, he held important portfolios within the Maldivian Foreign Service, such as those of the Chief of Protocol, Head of Multilateral Department, and Controller of Immigration.



**Amb. Dr. Niranjana Man Singh Basnyat**  
*Former Nepalese Ambassador to Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines*

Amb. Dr. Niranjana Man Singh Basnyat is former Nepalese Ambassador to Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. He is the President of Lumbini Research Centre for Understanding and Peace. He served in Nepalese Embassies/Missions in New York (First Secretary), Hong Kong (Consul), Paris (Counsellor), and the SAARC Secretariat as its Director. Dr. Basnyat was nominated to the post of Chief of Protocol of the Government. He did his PhD from the Centre for Diplomatic and Strategic Studies, School of Higher International Studies, France.



**Dr. Maihan Saeedi**  
*Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan*

Dr. Maihan Saeedi is the acting Director General First Political Directorate at Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Prior to this, he was the representative of Afghanistan to the SAARC and Policy Officer at Foreign Minister's Office. He was also the Director of Regional Cooperation Department of Afghan Institute of Strategic Studies. Dr. Saeedi completed his PhD from Jawaharlal Nehru University, India. Some of his publications include, The heart of Asia process at a juncture: an analysis of impediments to further progress and Afghanistan In Transition: Institution and Security Nexus.





**Ruwanthi Jayasekara**

*Institute of National security studies Sri Lanka*

Ruwanthi Jayasekara serves as an honorary Associate Research Fellow at the Institute of National Security Studies (INSS), Sri Lanka. She's a Kautilya Fellow at India Foundation. She is a grant holder for 'International Political Economy' from George Mason University in the United States in partnership with Hong Kong University. She has been a guest speaker at various national and international conferences on Digital Revolution, Water Security and Disaster Management, Indo-Pacific, SAARC and BIMSTEC in Sri Lanka, India and Bangladesh. She has published papers on national security, water governance and foresight analysis.



**Baijayant 'Jay' Panda**

*National Vice-President of the Bharatiya Janata Party*

Baijayant 'Jay' Panda is National Vice-President of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and In-Charge of Assam & Delhi BJP Units. He has been a four-time Member of Parliament of India, elected twice each to the Rajya Sabha and the Lok Sabha. Jay Panda graduated from the Michigan Technological University. He had helped to form the erstwhile Young Parliamentarians Forum (YPF) and was its Convener. He has also been associated with the India-USA Forum of Parliamentarians from its founding in 2001 and was its Chairman for fifteen years. He was awarded the "Bharat Asmita National Award" for best parliamentary practices by the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India in 2008. Since its inception in 2007, he has been associated with the 'Citizens' Alliance Against Malnutrition', an advocacy group including many parliamentarians across parties, civil society activists and non-governmental organizations, Bollywood actors and celebrities. He has also authored a book "Lutyens' Maverick".



**Amb. Nona Deprez**

*Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Nepal*

H.E Nona Deprez is an Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Nepal. She was Head of Unit for the Partnership Instrument in the Service for Foreign Policy Instrument (FPI) of the European Commission in Brussels. At the start of the new Commission, Amb. Deprez was appointed Equality Coordinator for the Service. Within the FPI, she has worked previously on Election Observations Missions and the instrument contributing to stability and peace after having served in two European Union Delegations to Indonesia and Benin. She holds a Master's of Science in European Studies from London School of Economics, following a first masters in Business Engineering from the Solvay Business School (ULB).



**Amb. Ram Kaji Khadka**  
*Ambassador of Nepal to Germany*

H.E. Ram Kaji Khadka is an ambassador of Nepal to the Federal Republic of Germany. Prior to this, Ambassador Khadka held the position of Director-General in the Department of Passports at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Nepal and Joint secretary at MoFA. Throughout his two-decades-long career as a diplomat, Amb. Khadka attended various international conferences representing Nepal. He was also appointed as Charg'e d' Affaires at the Embassy of Nepal Copenhagen Denmark and Doha Qatar. Ambassador Khadka also served in the capacity of Counsellor, Minister Counsellor and Deputy Chief of Mission at the Embassy of Nepal, Copenhagen. He was awarded the Excellent Civil Service Award by the Government of Nepal for his outstanding public service delivery.



**Amb. Dr. Banshidhar Mishra**  
*Ambassador of Nepal to Bangladesh*

H.E. Dr. Banshidhar Mishra is Ambassador of Nepal to the People's Republic of Bangladesh. He graduated as a medical doctor (MBBS) from Institute of Medicine from Tribhuvan University before beginning his political career in 1991 as Member of Parliament. Dr. Mishra, during his twenty eight years of political career, has served as the State Minister for Health, Member of Constituent Assembly of Nepal, Member of Parliament for three times and has held responsibilities of Member of High level Citizenship Commission (Minister of State Level, 1995) and senior advisory positions for Physicians for Social Responsibility Nepal (an affiliate to International Physicians for Prevention of Nuclear War, IPPNW, a Noble Peace Prize Winner organization) and Manmohan Memorial Health Foundation. He is also the founding Chairman of Rural Self Reliance Campaign Nepal and founding Vice-Chairman of Nepal Health Care Co-operative Ltd. He is also one of the signatory of the Constitution of Nepal promulgated in 2015.



**Amb. Krishna Prasad Dhakal**  
*Nepalese Ambassador to UAE.*

H.E Krishna Prasad Dhakal is the Ambassador of Nepal to the United Arab Emirates (UAE). He joined Nepal Civil Service in February 2003. During his career in civil service, he held a variety of positions in various Ministries and Nepali Missions abroad. Amb. Dhakal served as Joint Secretary/Head of Division of Regional Organization (SAARC, BIMSTEC, ACO and SCO) Division and Policy Planning, Development Diplomacy and Overseas Nepali Affairs Division of the Ministry Foreign Affairs. He worked previously as Charge' d'Affaires/DCM/Minister of the Embassy of Nepal, New Delhi. Amb. Dhakal was the Director General of Consular service Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Nepal. Prior to this appointment, he served as Joint Secretary/Head of Economic Diplomacy and Policy Planning Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also served as a Program Director at the National Planning Commission Secretariat, Kathmandu. Amb. Dhakal has long experience of working in World Trade Organization (WTO) Division, Ministry of Commerce and Supplies as section officer. He engaged in various multilateral trade negotiations under the auspices of the WTO.





**Amb. Dr. Narad Nath Bharadwaj**

*Nepalese Ambassador to Qatar*

H.E. Dr. Narad Nath Bharadwaj is an Ambassador of Nepal to the State of Qatar. He was an Associate Professor at the Central Department of History in Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu. Ambassador Bharadwaj holds a Ph.D. in History from Tribhuvan University. He has been decorated with Nepal Vidya Bhushan 'A' and has received Pushpalal Memorial National Award. Ambassador Bharadwaj has co-authored more than a dozens of books, research reports and articles.



**Amb. Mani Prasad Bhattarai**

*Ambassador /Permanent Representative of Nepal to the UN and other International Organizations in Geneva*

H.E. Mani Prasad Bhattarai is the Ambassador / Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations Office, World Trade Organization and other International Organizations in Geneva. In his three-decade long career, he was the Head /Joint Secretary of Policy Planning, Economic Diplomacy and Non-Resident Nepal Division; General Administration Division; and the Regional Organizations Division at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Earlier, Amb. Bhattarai was the Charge d'Affaires a.i. at the Embassy of Nepal in Manama, Bahrain and the Counsellor/ Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Nepal to the United Nations in New York. He has also participated at several high-level meetings of the UN General Assembly, SAARC, BIMSTEC, ACD and others. He was the Under Secretary at the South Asia Division, North East Division and UN and International Law Division in the Ministry.



**Neha Bansal**

*Asia Fellow, Harvard University and Asianism Retold*

Neha Bansal is Asia Fellowship at Harvard University's ASH Centre for Democratic Governance leading the programme, 'Asianism-Retold'. She is also India Country Head for the Global Fund to End Modern Slavery. Previously, Neha served the United Nations for 10 years across Asia as a senior social policy expert and at the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office, Government of UK. She is an elected National Council Member to the Indian Women's Chamber of Commerce and Industry. She has written extensively on issues affecting Asia. 'Rethinking Asia- the future of work' a book co-authored with senior fellows from Stanford and Harvard, August 2020 is her latest. Neha is classical dancer and holds a Master in public policy administration from Harvard Kennedy School and MBA from the International Management Institute.





**Prof. Dr. So Young Kim**

*Director, Korea Fourth Industrial Revolution Policy Center*

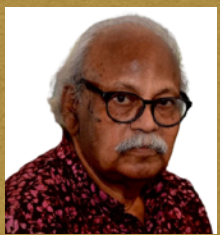
Prof. Dr. So-young Kim is head of the Korea Fourth Industrial Revolution Policy Centre, served as an associate professor at KAIST Graduate School of Science and Technology Policy, and is the vice president of the Kenya Institute of Science and Technology Construction Project Group, and the head of the Convergence Education Research Centre. She earned her doctoral degrees from North-western University as a Fulbright scholars. She has held various positions, including the head of policy at KOFWST, the co-representative of the National Federation for the Realization of the Right Science and Technology Society, the Global Future Committee member of the World Economic Forum, and a guest editorial member of the Dong-A Ilbo. She was awarded the KAIST Foundation Commemoration Achievement Award, International Cooperation Award, and the National Assembly Science and Technology Information and Communication Chairperson Achievement Award.



**Prof. Dr. Mark R. Thompson**

*City University of Hong Kong*

Prof. Dr. Mark R. Thompson is head and professor of politics, Department of Asian and International Studies and Director, Southeast Asia Research Centre at the City University of Hong Kong. He is past president of the Hong Kong Political Science Association and of the Asian Political and International Studies Association. He previously held permanent positions in the UK and Germany and was a visiting scholar in Japan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and the US. In 2008-2009 he was Lee Kong Chian Distinguished Fellow for Southeast Asian Studies at the National University of Singapore and Stanford University. He has received several major external grants in Germany and Hong Kong. He is written numerous academic articles and opinion pieces and is the author or editor of 10 books - most recently *Authoritarian Modernism in East Asia* (Palgrave 2019), China's "Singapore Model" and *Authoritarian Learning* (co-editor, Routledge 2020), and *Governance and Democracy in the Asia-Pacific* (co-editor, Routledge 2020).



**Prof. Rabiqun Nabi**

*Visual Artist and Cartoonist, University of Dhaka*

Prof. Rabiqun Nabi is a Visual Artist and Cartoonist at Department of drawing and painting, Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He is former Dean of Faculty of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka and has organised 14 solo Exhibitions of Paintings, Prints and Drawings at home and abroad. He has also participated around 260 group shows, Biennales, etc in Bangladesh and abroad. Prof. Nabi has published 17 books, including his autobiography.



**Litey Kurisinkal**

*Human Rights Research Consultant*

Litey Kurisinkal is a Human Rights Research Consultant. She served in the US Presidential Election campaign for Biden/Harris 2020 as a core member in grassroots mobilization of voters. She has worked as the External Research Support for the UN Special Rapporteur on Sale and Sexual Exploitation of Children and on a range of human rights issues like civil and political rights, children's rights, labor rights, migrant rights, health rights and protection of street children. She is a Public Policy graduate from Harvard Kennedy School, Harvard University and was awarded with the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy Paper Prize in 2013 from Harvard Kennedy School.





**Jay Nishaant**

*President, Nepal Democracy Foundation*

Jay Nishaant is President of Nepal Democracy Foundation. Earlier, he has worked with National Democratic Institute and Millennium Challenge Corporation. He has designed and implemented various democracy and legislative programs with special focus on political party strengthening, parliamentary support, civil society development, and supporting free and fair elections. Mr. Nishaant is a Stanford fellow on democracy, development and rule of law and a noted media personality.

He regularly contributes to Nepal's leading newspapers on current affairs, politics, international relations and development issues.

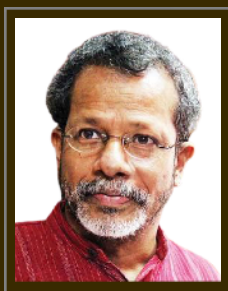


**Prof. Dr. Rahul Mukherji**

*Director, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg University*

Dr. Rahul Mukherji is Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science, and the Executive Director of the South Asia Institute at Heidelberg University. Prof. Mukherji has taught at National University of Singapore, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Hunter College and University of Vermont. He is also a Senior Non-

Resident Fellow of the Institute of South Asian Studies, NUS and China-India workshop at Fudan University, Shanghai. Prof. Mukherji serves on the board of prestigious journals and has authored 'Political Economy of Reforms in India', 'Globalization and Deregulation: Ideas, Interests and Institutional Change in India', 'Policy Paradigms and Path Dependence: The Endogenous Roots of Institutional Displacement' and 'Drift in India' in the Global Public Policy and Governance', 'Governing India: Evolution of Programmatic Welfare in Andhra Pradesh,' and 'Democracy vs. Covid: India's Illiberal Remedy' in the Journal of Democracy.



**Prof. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed**

*Center for Genocide Studies, University of Dhaka*

Prof. Imtiaz Ahmed is Director of Center for Genocide Studies and Professor of International Relations at University of Dhaka. He is also Visiting Professor at the Sagesse University, Beirut. Prof. Ahmed is the recipient of various awards and honours and has authored, co-authored, or edited 26 books and 8 monographs such as 'Genocide and Mass Violence: Politics of Singularity', 'The Rohingya Refugee Crisis: Towards Sustainable Solutions', and Women, Veiling and Politics.



**Prof. Dr. Ayesha Siddiqi**

*SOAS, London University*

Prof. Ayesha Siddiqi is a Research Associate at Centre for International Studies and Diplomacy, SOAS, London University. She holds PhD in War Studies from King's College London. She has also authored 12 book chapters and published over 300 articles in academic journals. She is a regular contributor to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, Counter-Terrorism yearbook for 2018 &

2019. She has worked as an Advisor to the Chairman of National Accountability Bureau (NAB) – Pakistan's Anti-Corruption Watchdog and has been associated with the Department of the Auditor General of Pakistan.



**Dr. Rollie Lal**

*Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University*

Dr. Rollie Lal is an Associate Professor at the Elliott School of International Affairs. Previously Dr. Lal was Associate Professor at the US Department of Defense's Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies. Dr. Lal has served as Assistant Professor at the Vlerick Leuven Gent Management School in Gent, Belgium and St. Petersburg, Russia. Dr. Lal was a political scientist at RAND and has authored several books, including *Terrorist Criminal Enterprises*, *Understanding China and India*, *Central Asia and Its Asian Neighbors*, *Iran's Political, Demographic, and Economic Vulnerabilities*, and *The Muslim World After 9/11*. Dr. Lal received her PhD in International Relations from Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies, US.



**Dr. Hassan Abbas**

*Distinguished Professor, Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies*

Dr. Hassan Abbas is Distinguished Professor of International Relations at the Near East South Asia Strategic Studies Centre (NESA), National Defense University in Washington DC. He serves as a senior advisor at Harvard University's Weatherhead Center for International Affairs. Earlier he served as professor and department chair at National Defense University's College of International Security Affairs and as the Distinguished Quaid-i-Azam Professor at Columbia University. He held various fellowships including at Harvard Law School, the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at the Harvard's Kennedy School of Government; Asia Society in New York, and at the New America Foundation. His most recent book is *The Prophet's Heir: The Life of Ali ibn Abi Talib* (Yale University Press, March 2021)



**Radhika Halder**

*Geopolitical Intelligence Analyst, MitKat Advisory*

Radhika Halder is a Geopolitical Intelligence Analyst at MitKat. She previously worked as Program Analyst at Niti Foundation, Kathmandu. She specializes on global terrorism, radicalization and violent extremism as well as regional security and politics in South Asia. She is the author of the book titled 'Understanding Suicide Terrorism', which is the product of her research at the Centre for Air Power Studies, New Delhi. She is a frequent publisher of opinion pieces and academic papers.





### **Admiral Prof. Jayanath Colombage**

*Foreign Secretary of Sri Lanka*

Admiral (Prof.) Jayanath Colombage has served the Sri Lanka Navy for a period of 36 years and retired as the Commander of the Navy. He is the 18th Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy and was decorated for gallantry and commended for exceptional service to the Navy. Previously he was Additional Secretary to the President for Foreign Relations. He holds a PhD from General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University (Sri Lanka). He also holds MSc on Defence and Strategic Studies from Madras University and MA on International Studies from Kings College, London. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of Colombo, Defence Services Command and Staff College (Sri Lanka), Kotelawala Defence University, Bandaranaike Center for International Studies and Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute. He is a Fellow of Nautical Institute, London UK. Admiral Colombage is a Guest Professor at Sichuan University and Leshan Normal University in China and an adjunct professor at National Institute of South China Sea Studies, Haikou, China. In addition. He has been a guest lecturer in several key universities and training institutes in Bangladesh, India, Japan and Pakistan. He has also been an editor and reviewer of a number of internationally renowned academic journals. In addition, he has served as the Director General of the Institute of National Security Studies Sri Lanka as well.



### **General Pyar Jung Thapa (Retd.)**

*Former, Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army*

General Pyar Jung Thapa is a former Chief of Army Staff of the Nepali Army. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger course. He is also an alumnus of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst (UK), Staff College, Camberley (UK) and the US Army War College. He has served as a Battalion Commander in the UN Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and as Deputy Sector Commander of the vital Sector West of the United Nation Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in former Yugoslavia. He also coordinated the first Pacific Area peacekeeping Multi Platoon Training Event (MPTE). The General has held key staff and command appointments including as Army's Director of Operations, Intelligence, Training, Research and Development and Commander of the Royal Guards and No 10 Brigade (Special Forces). The General is currently Chairman of Nepal Policy Study Centre.



### **General Bikram Singh, PVSM, UYSM, AVSM, SM, VSM, ADC**

*Former, Chief of Army Staff of Indian Army*

General Bikram Singh is former Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army. During his military career spanning over forty years, the General has held various high-profile Command and Staff appointments. Previously the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the army's Eastern Command, General Bikram Singh has commanded an Infantry Battalion in the North East and on the Line of Control in J&K, a RR Sector and an Infantry Division in Northern Command. He has commanded 15 Corps and Eastern Command. He has served in three UN Peace Keeping Missions. He is the second Sikh to be COAS, and was also the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee (CoSC) of the Indian armed forces. The General has also held important staff appointments at Army Headquarters, which include tenures in Military Operations, Perspective Planning and Staff Duties.



**Prof. Dr. Harsh V Pant**

*King's College London and Observer Research Foundation.*

Prof. Dr. Harsh V Pant is Director, Studies and Head of the Strategic Studies Programme at Observer Research Foundation, New Delhi and he holds a joint appointment with the Department of Defence Studies and King's India Institute as Professor of International Relations at King's College London. He is also a Non-Resident Fellow with the Wadhwani Chair in US-India Policy Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Washington, DC. Prof. Pant has been Visiting Professor at several reputed universities such as University of Pennsylvania, McGill University, University of Melbourne, and others. His most recent books include *New Directions in India's Foreign Policy: Theory and Praxis*, *India's Nuclear Policy*, *The US Pivot and Indian Foreign Policy*, *Handbook of Indian Defence Policy*, *India's Afghan Muddle*, and *The US-India Nuclear Pact: Policy, Process and Great Power Politics*.



## NIICE GLOBAL CONCLAVE TEAM



**Dr. Pramod Jaiswal**  
*Research Director*  
NIICE



**Sumitra Karki**  
*Program Coordinator*  
NIICE



**Sumnima Karki**  
*Research Associate*  
NIICE



**Sunaina Karki**  
*Research Associate*  
NIICE



**Nandita Khadgi**  
*Research Associate*  
NIICE



**Dr. Abhiruchi Ojha**  
*Visiting Fellow*  
NIICE



**Dr. Vijayta Mahendru**  
*Visiting Fellow*  
NIICE



**Pakhi Gauba**  
*Outreach Associate*  
NIICE



**Nimesh Babu Oli**  
*Media and Outreach*  
NIICE

## PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



AFGHANISTAN



ARGENTINA



ARMENIA



AUSTRALIA



BANGLADESH



BELGIUM



BHUTAN



CAMEROON



CANADA



CHINA



DENMARK



ESTONIA



GERMANY



INDIA



ISRAEL



ITALY



JAPAN



MALAYSIA



MALDIVES



MEXICO



NEPAL



NETHERLANDS



NORTH MACEDONIA



NORWAY



PAKISTAN



PHILIPPINES



POLAND



QATAR



ROMANIA



RUSSIA



SINGAPORE



SOUTH KOREA



SRI LANKA



SWEDEN



SWITZERLAND



THAILAND



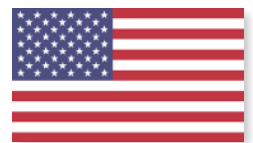
TURKEY



UAE



UNITED KINGDOM



UNITED STATES  
OF AMERICA



VIETNAM



## PARTNERS

Elliott School of  
International Affairs

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



SCHOOL of  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC



INSTITUTE OF CHINA STUDIES

马来亚大学中国研究所



Institute of Asian Studies  
Chulalongkorn University



復旦大學



1870 - 2020



Institute of South Asian Studies



GLOBAL SOUTH  
STUDIES CENTER  
COLOGNE



**SADF**  
South Asia  
Democratic  
Forum



Centre for Chinese and South East Asian Studies

Jawaharlal Nehru University

New Delhi, INDIA

BANGLADESH ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE



**BHARAT CENTER  
OF CANADA**



Institutul Român de Studii Euro-Asiatice



## MEDIA PARTNERS



Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement is an independent, apolitical and non-partisan think tank which believes in freedom, democracy and a world free from conflict. We envision a world, where sources of insecurity are identified and understood, conflicts are prevented or resolved, and peace is advocated.

## REACH US



**[www.niice.org.np](http://www.niice.org.np)**



**@contactniice**



**Niice Nepal**



**Niice Nepal**



**Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement**

**Published by:** NIICE

**Layout Design:** Dr. Pramod Jaiswal

**Cover Design:** Sunaina Karki

© All Rights Reserved by NIICE.