

India Trilateral Forum 12

April 27-28, 2017 | New Delhi, India

Agenda

Thursday, April 27, 2017

*Participants travel to New Delhi and check into hotel
Taj Mahal Hotel - Mansingh Road, New Delhi, India 11001*

Conference Venue: Diwan-i-Am, Taj Mahal Hotel

12:30-13:00 *Registration*

13:00-14:00 *Inaugural Lunch*

14:00-14:15 **WELCOME REMARKS**

- Samir Saran, Vice President, Observer Research Foundation
- Erik Widman, Deputy Head of Asia Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden
- Daniel Twining, Counselor, The German Marshall Fund of the United States

14:15-15:30 **ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION? DEMONETIZATION, GST, AND MODI'S REFORM SCORECARD**

India has emerged as the world's fastest-growing major economy. Yet, it has a long way to go in order to expand its manufacturing base, and produce the million jobs per month that its demographic boom demands. Most Indians still work beyond the formal reach of the economy. This panel will explore the economic performance of the Indian government since it took office in May 2014. It will assess some of the landmark policies of the current government, such as the political and economic impact of the demonetization policy, and the mechanics of the Goods and Services Tax. This panel will also discuss the government's policy positions on issues including, but not limited to, land acquisition, labour reform, and changes to campaign finance regulations.

Chair:

- Ashok Malik, Distinguished Fellow, and Head Neighbourhood Regional Studies Initiative, Observer Research Foundation

Speakers:

- Tanvi Madan, Fellow, Brookings Institution
- Dhiraj Nayyar, Officer on Special Duty & Head, Economics, Finance and Commerce, NITI Aayog, Government of India

- Ila Patnaik, Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, Government of India

15:30-16:00 *Coffee break*

16:00-17:15 **INSURGENT POLITICS, NEW MEDIA, AND ELECTIONS IN INDIA, THE U.S., AND EUROPE: COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVES**

Prime Minister Modi's continued electoral victories, President Trump's win, and Britain's vote to leave the European Union have ushered in a new genre of politics. In this context, this panel will discuss the impact of the recent political developments in the three regions. How are fresh political actors, new media, and popular revolts against elite establishments changing politics in the world's biggest democracies? What effect have insurgent politics had on their foreign policies? Will the political outlook in Europe, India, and the United States support closer collaboration in global affairs? Are there mutual lessons to be learnt on issues of nationalism, populism, and new media?

Chair:

- Ankhi Das, Public Policy Director, Facebook

Speakers:

- Sadanand Dhume, Resident Fellow, American Enterprise Institute and Columnist, Wall Street Journal
- Sebastian Groth, Deputy Director, Policy Planning Staff, German Federal Foreign Office
- Kanchan Gupta, Commissioning Editor & Commentator, ABP News
- Maya Mirchandani, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

17:15-17:30 *Coffee break*

17:30-18:45 **BUILDING A ROBUST DIGITAL ECONOMY: CRAFTING POLICY TO PROMOTE INNOVATION AND GROWTH**

The reach of the digital arm today transcends north-south binaries. Exploring the themes of affordable connectivity, digital empowerment, and access in Asia, this panel will discuss policies around which governments, businesses and civil society can work together to promote a sustainable digital economy. How can we capitalize the start up economy and emerging digital platforms? What steps can states take – beyond increasing connectivity and enhanced local language content – to tap into the substantial workforce? With the workforce progressively migrating online, how can skill development programs be better aligned with the new realities of the marketplace?

Chair:

- Nisid Hajari, Asia Editor, Bloomberg View

Speakers:

- Sudha David-Wilp, Senior Transatlantic Fellow & Deputy Director, Berlin Office, The German Marshall Fund of the United States
- Arvind Gupta, Founder, Digital India Foundation/ National Technology Head, BJP, India
- Chetan Krishnaswamy, Director, Public Policy, Google India
- Ratna Viswanthan, CEO, Microfinance Institutions Network

18:45-19:00 *Cocktail Reception*

19:00-20:00 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY H.E. NICOS ANASTASIADIS, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS – “THE EU-INDIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A CYPRUS PERSPECTIVE”**

- Welcome remarks by Sunjoy Joshi, Director, Observer Research Foundation
- Keynote address by H.E. Nicos Anastasiades, President of the Republic of Cyprus
- Vote of thanks by Samir Saran, Vice President, Observer Research Foundation

20:00 **Opening Dinner - Taj Mahal Hotel**

Friday, April 28, 2017

Conference Venue: Diwan-i-Am, Taj Mahal Hotel

09:30-10:00 *Coffee reception*

10:00-11:15 **TRUMP’S WORLD: CHANGING GEOPOLITICS IN ASIA, THE MIDDLE EAST, AND EUROPE**

America’s new president campaigned on a worldview distinct from those of his internationalist predecessors, both Republican and Democratic, who have been in office since 1945. What would an “America First” foreign policy mean for regional security in a Middle East torn by terrorism and insurgency? How will it affect an Asia anxious about China’s growing assertiveness and reach, and a Europe where Russian influence remains a major concern? More broadly, is the United States now a force for stability or for instability in world affairs? Could Trump’s focus on American power in fact move him closer to the foreign policy mainstream than President Obama’s efforts at retrenchment? How are India, Europe, and other American friends and partners adapting to the new administration in Washington, DC?

Chair:

- Hardeep Singh Puri, Chairman, Research and Information Systems (RIS)

Speakers:

- Hans-Christian Hagman, Director of Strategic Analysis, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden
- Dhruva Jaishankar, Fellow, Foreign Policy, Brookings India
- Kathy Leach, Joint Head Policy Unit, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK
- Daniel Twining, Counselor, The German Marshall Fund of the United States

11:15-11:30 *Coffee break*

11:30-12:30 **KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY H.E. JAYANT SINHA, MINISTER OF STATE FOR CIVIL AVIATION, GOVT. OF INDIA, MODERATED BY SUNJOY JOSHI, DIRECTOR, OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

12:30-13:30 *Lunch*

11:30-12:30 **IN CONVERSATION: H.E. SANTOSH JHA, JOINT SECRETARY, POLICY PLANNING & RESEARCH, MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDIA MODERATED BY SAMIR SARAN, VICE PRESIDENT, OBSERVER RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

14:00-15:15 **A LA CARTE GLOBALIZATION: CAN GLOBAL GOVERNANCE ON CLIMATE, TRADE, AND THE INTERNET SURVIVE THE NEW NATIONALISM?**

This panel will discuss how domestic political exigencies in various major powers are implicating the future of collective action and global governance. The impact of the new U.S. administration on the Paris climate change agreement – in which Europe and India remain invested – is undeniable. In addition, the future of the liberal trading architecture, and the contours of the international regime around cyber security and Internet governance are all being interrogated by the new mood on globalization. Can multilateralism survive this new nationalist moment? Are we witnessing de-globalization, or are countries pursuing an a-la-carte version of global integration – and is that sustainable? Can India and China bear the burden of furthering the globalization agenda, when traditional powers are exhibiting fatigue?

Chair:

- Hans Kundnani, Senior Fellow, The German Marshall Fund of the United States

Speakers:

- Asoke Mukerji, Former Ambassador of India to the United Nations
- Deepa Ollapally, Research Professor of International Affairs, George Washington University

- Lydia Powell, Senior Fellow, and Head, Energy Initiative, Observer Research Foundation
- Eva Svedling, State Secretary, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Sweden

15:15-15:30 *Coffee break*

15:30-16:45 **INDIA, AMERICA AND EUROPE: TOWARDS A 21ST CENTURY DEFENCE & SECURITY PARTNERSHIP**

India is the world's largest arms importer and wields one of the world's largest militaries – deployed from the Himalayan frontiers to the waters of East Asia and the Persian Gulf. It faces border disputes with its two nuclear armed neighbours – Pakistan and China, and continues to suffer from cross border terror attacks. This panel will examine India's military modernization requirements and its changing strategic posture, and the role that the U.S. and Europe can play in assisting Indian management of its security in South Asia and beyond. How can Europe and the United States partner with India on its "Make in India" agenda to scale up domestic manufacturing in military hardware? What are the policy hurdles that restrict this partnership from developing? How can skills, know-how, and technology be transferred and applied to the India defence industry?

Chair:

- Indrani Bagchi, Diplomatic Editor, Times of India

Speakers

- Nitin Gokhale, CEO and Founder, BharatShakti.in
- Sumit Ganguly, Tagore Professor, Indiana University
- Abhijit Iyer-Mitra, Senior Fellow, Institute of Peace & Conflict Studies
- John Rydqvist, Head, Defence Policy Studies Programme, Swedish Defense Research Agency

16:45-17:00 *Coffee break*

17:00-17:45 **IN CONVERSATION: DR. SHASHI THAROOR, CHAIRMAN OF THE PARLIAMENTARY STANDING COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, INDIA, WITH SAMIR SARAN, VICE PRESIDENT, ORF**

17:45-18:00 *Coffee break*

18:00-19:15 **"BEIJING CONSENSUS"? INDIAN AND WESTERN PERSPECTIVES ON CHINA'S BELT & ROAD INITIATIVE**

China's rise as a military and economic power has been accompanied by an attempt to project both "hard" and "soft" forms of influence across its periphery, including into South and Central Asia, the Western Pacific, and Europe. This panel will explore whether this amounts to a new, Chinese model of global governance, or one of dominance - a "Beijing Consensus", perhaps. Some

countries, including India, have remained skeptical of China's plans. Managing the proposed China-Pakistan Economic Corridor in particular will throw up new challenges for India. What implications will it have for the regional architecture in South and Central Asia? What are the geopolitical implications of Xi Jinping's grand vision of a New Silk Road for Europe and the transatlantic alliance? Will the Belt and Road project divide Europe from the United States and India?

Chair:

- Sanjaya Baru, Distinguished Fellow, United Service Institution of India

Speakers:

- Latha Reddy, Visiting Fellow, Observer Research Foundation
- Mihir S. Sharma, Senior Fellow and Head, Economy and Growth Initiative, Observer Research Foundation
- David Shullman, Deputy National Intelligence Officer, East Asia, U.S. National Intelligence Council
- Klaus Vietze, Head of Asia and Africa Division, Office of the Federal President, Germany

19:15-19:30 *Transfer to closing reception*

19:30 **Closing Reception** - *Ambassador's Residence, Embassy of Sweden, 4-5 Nyaya Marg, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi*

List of participants

Alka Acharya

Professor

Jawaharlal Nehru University

Nicos Anastasiades

President

Republic of Cyprus

Indrani Bagchi

Diplomatic Editor

Times of India

Sanjaya Baru

Distinguished Fellow

United Service Institution of India

Stefania Benaglia

Associate fellow

Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI)

Gautam Bhattacharyya

Deputy Head of Mission

Embassy of Sweden

Priyanka Chaturvedi

Spokesperson

Indian National Congress

Sachin Chaturvedi

Director General at the Research and

Information System for Developing

Countries (RIS)

Serena Chaudhry

Reporter and Producer

Reuters Video News, London

Pramit Pal Chaudhuri

Foreign Editor

Hindustan Times

Kanika Chawla

Senior Programme Lead

Council on Energy, Environment, and Water

Ankhi Das

Public Policy Director, India and South &
Central Asia.

Facebook

Sudha David-Wilp

Senior Transatlantic Fellow & Deputy

Director, Berlin Office

The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Sadanand Dhume

Resident Fellow

American Enterprise Institute

Alexander Evans

Deputy High Commissioner to India &

Chief Operating Officer

British High Commission

Sumit Ganguly

Tagore Professor

Indiana University

Wojciech Gerwel

Counsellor

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Poland

Nitin Gokhale

CEO and Founder

BharatShakti.in

Frédéric Grare
Charge de Mission, Asia
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France

Sebastian Groth
Deputy Director of the Policy Planning Staff
German Federal Foreign Office

Arvind Gupta
Founder, Digital India Foundation,
National Technology Head
BJP, India

Kanchan Gupta
Commissioning Editor & Commentator
ABP News Network

Samiran Gupta
Head of India
Internet Corporation for Assigned Names
and Numbers (ICANN)

Hans-Christian Hagman
Director of Strategic Analysis
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Nisid Hajari
Asia Editor
The Bloomberg View

Jens Hanefeld
Head of International Policy
Volkswagen AG

Julia Hector
Coordinator to the State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Karl Henriksson
Defence Attache
Embassy of Sweden

Marcus Holknekt
First Secretary
Political Affairs India, Nepal and Bhutan
Embassy of Sweden

Abhijit Iyer-Mitra
Senior Fellow
Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies

Dhruva Jaishankar
Fellow, Foreign Policy
Brookings Institution

Björn Jerdén
Asia Program Director
Swedish Institute of International Affairs

Sunjoy Joshi
Director
Observer Research Foundation

Manoj Joshi
Distinguished Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Rajat Kathuria
Director and Chief Executive
ICRIER

Chetan Krishnaswamy
Director, Public Policy
Google India

Hans Kundnani
Senior Fellow
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Kathy Leach
Joint Head Policy Unit
Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK

Emil Liden
Desk Officer
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Tanvi Madan

Fellow and Director, The India Project
Brookings Institution

Ashok Malik

Distinguished Fellow, Head Neighbourhood
Regional Studies Initiative
Observer Research Foundation

Ranjan Mathai

Former Foreign Secretary
Ministry of External Affairs, India

Akshay Mathur

Director of Research and Fellow of
Goeconomic Studies, Gateway House
Indian Council on Global Relations

Alexander McLachlan

Senior Adviser, Strategic Planning
European External Action Service

Maya Mirchandani

Senior Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Olga Mostinskaya

Freelance Interpreter
United Nations

Asoke Mukherji

Former Ambassador of India to the United
Nations

Anthea Mulakala

Director for International Development
Cooperation
Asia Foundation

Dhiraj Nayyar

Officer on Special Duty & Head, Economics,
Finance and Commerce
NITI Aayog, Government of India

Ruhee Neog

Director
Institute of Peace & Conflict Studies

Tanoubi Ngangom

Junior Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Deepa Ollapally

Research Professor of International Affairs
George Washington University

Shruti Pandalai

Associate Fellow
Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses

Ila Patnaik

Professor, National Institute of Public
Finance and Policy
Government of India

Britta Petersen

Senior Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Danielle Piatkiewicz

Program Coordinator
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Lydia Powell

Senior Fellow and Head, Energy Initiative
Observer Research Foundation

Rajeswari Rajagopalan

Senior Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Shamika Ravi

Fellow
Brookings Institution

Latha Reddy
Visiting Fellow
Observer Research Foundation, and
Former Deputy National Security Advisor
to India

Lucy Robinson
Policy Planner, South Asia and Prosperity
Foreign & Commonwealth Office, UK

John Rydqvist
Head, Defence Policy Studies Programme
Swedish Defence Research Agency

Harald Sandberg
Ambassador
Embassy of Sweden

Samir Saran
Vice President
Observer Research Foundation

Amanda Sellers
Manager, NATO-ICI Regional Center
NATO

Mihir S. Sharma
Senior Fellow and Head, Economy and
Growth Initiative
Observer Research Foundation

David Shullman
Deputy National Intelligence Officer,
East Asia
U.S. National Intelligence Council

Sushant Singh
Associate Editor
Indian Express

Hardeep Singh Puri
Chairman
Research and Information Systems (RIS)

Abhijit Singh
Senior Fellow
Observer Research Foundation

Jayant Sinha
Minister of State for Civil Aviation
Government of India

Andrew Small
Senior Transatlantic Fellow
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Shubh Soni
Program Coordinator
Observer Research Foundation

Sharon Stirling
Senior Program Officer
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Robin Sukhia
Secretary General & President
Sweden-India Business Council

Eva Svedling
State Secretary
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

Roger Svensson
Senior Advisor
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Shashi Tharoor
Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing
Committee on External Affairs, India

Friederike Tschampa
First Counsellor, Head of Political Affairs
Delegation of the European Union

Daniel Twining

Counselor
The German Marshall Fund of the United
States

Anna Uggla

Counsellor, Political Affairs India, Sri Lanka
and Maldives
Embassy of Sweden

Klaus Vietze

Head of Asia and Africa Division
Office of the Federal President, Germany

Ratna Viswanathan

CEO
Micro Finance Institutions Network, India

Jan Widerström

Chairman & Managing Director
Saab India Technologies Pvt Ltd

Erik Widman

Deputy Head of Asia Department
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sweden

John-Joseph Wilkins

Public Information Officer
European Union Institute for Security
Studies

Constantino Xavier

Fellow
Carnegie Endowment India

German Marshall Fund of the United States
1744 R St NW, Washington, D.C.

www.gmfus.org

Washington | Berlin | Paris | Brussels | Belgrade | Bucharest | Warsaw