



5TH WEST ASIA CONFERENCE

India's Approach to West Asia: Trends, Challenges and Possibilities

March 29-30, 2022

PROGRAMME

Day One: March 29, 2022

Welcome Remarks: 11:30 AM – 11:40 AM (IST)

Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, *Director General, MP-IDSA, New Delhi*

SESSION ONE: 11:40 AM – 01:40 PM (IST)

India and West Asia: Adapting to Changing Realities

Chair: Amb. Sujan R. Chinoy, *Director General, MP-IDSA*

Speakers: 15 minutes each

1. Amb. Dr. Ezzat Saad El Sayed, Director, Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs, Cairo
Egyptian perspective of India- Egypt bilateral relations
2. Amb. Talmiz Ahmad, Former Ambassador of India to Saudi Arabia, UAE and Oman
West Asia: New challenges and fresh alignments in a turbulent regional scenario
3. Amb. Dore Gold, President, Jerusalem Centre for Public Affairs, Jerusalem
Why the Quad?

Q&A Session

SESSION TWO: 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM (IST)

Regional geopolitics and security in West Asia

Chair: Prof. Gulshan Dietl (Retd.), Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Speakers: 15 minutes each

1. Dr. Andrey Kortunov, Director General, Russian International Affairs Council, Moscow

2. Prof. Mehmet Seyfettin Erol, President, Ankara Centre for Crisis and Policy Studies, Ankara
Central-South Asia in the changing geopolitics of Western Asia: The New Spice Route
3. Mr. Goor Tsalalyachin, Executive Director, The Abba Eban Institute for International Diplomacy, Reichman University, Herziliya, Israel
4. Dr. Muddassir Quamar, Associate Fellow, MP-IDSA, New Delhi
Non-State actors and regional stability in West Asia

Q&A Session

Day Two: March 30, 2022

SESSION THREE: 11:00 AM – 01:00 PM (IST)

Energy and Diaspora

Chair: Dr. Meena Singh Roy, Senior Fellow and Head, West Asia and Eurasia, Tillotoma Foundation, and Distinguished Fellow, Middle East Institute, New Delhi

Speakers: 15 minutes each

1. Prof. S. Irudaya Rajan, Chairman, International Institute of Migration and Development, Thiruvananthapuram and Dr. H. Arokkiaraj, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Youth and Development, Chennai
Challenges facing Indian migrant workers in the Gulf during the Covid-19 pandemic
2. Dr. N. Janardhan, Senior Research Fellow, Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy, Abu Dhabi
COVID Tests Resilience of ‘Common’ Gulf Indians
3. Dr. P K Pradhan, Associate Fellow and Coordinator, West Asia centre, MP-IDSA
Indians in the Gulf during the pandemic: Analysing response from India and the regional countries
4. Dr. Abdulla Al Abbasi, Research Fellow, Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International and Energy Studies (Derasat), Manama
Exploring the future of India-Gulf ties in the power sector
5. Dr. Vrushal Ghoble, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
Geopolitical shifts and West Asia’s energy equation with India: Analysing economic and strategic gains and losses

Q&A Session

SESSION FOUR: 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM (IST)

Strategic and security cooperation

Chair: Prof. Shamir Hasan (Retd.), Aligarh Muslim University

Speakers: 15 minutes each

1. Dr. Joseph Kechichian, Senior Fellow, King Faisal Centre for Research and Islamic Studies, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
The security of the Arab Gulf States and India's growing security ties with GCC member states
2. Dr. Hasan Al Hasan, Research Fellow for Middle East Policy, The International Institute for Strategic Studies, London
India's Defence and Security Cooperation with the GCC States
3. Dr. Mandana Tisheyar, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran
Indo-Iran Relations: From strategic partnership to paled friendship
4. Prof. P. R. Kumaraswamy, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi
India and WANA: Emerging Dynamics, Challenges and Opportunities

Q&A Session

Vote of Thanks:

Maj. Gen. (Dr.) Bipin Bakshi, AVSM, VSM, (Retd.), Deputy Director General, MP-IDSA