



THE DELHI POLICY GROUP

Program on Developing Durable Peace Processes & Partners

&

NELSON MANDELA CENTRE FOR PEACE & CONFLICT RESOLUTION



Program Director:
Radha Kumar

Conference VI

Pluralism and Democracy after 9/11: Europe & India

November 27-28, 2006

Venue—India International Centre, Conference Room II

Agenda

November 27, 2006

9.30 – 10.00 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

Nalin Surie, *Secretary West, MEA*
Nitin Desai, *Delhi Policy Group*

10.00 – 11.30 a.m. **Session I. Our Changing Neighborhood—Indian and European Approaches**

Keynote: Gianni De Michelis, *Europe and India—Common
Values, Uncommon Goals*
Comments: Radha Kumar, Stefano Silvestri

Chair: NN Vohra



Since 9/11 and the war on terrorism, many Asian countries have become hotspots drawing wide international attention. There is increasing European engagement with peace processes in West, Central, South and South-East Asia. India and European countries have begun to discuss their policies towards some of these conflicts, and each is cautiously considering areas of cooperation and/coordination. Is there scope for closer collaboration, and what might this entail, taking into account the different national sensibilities and the issues of potential collaboration?



11.30 – 11.45 a.m. **Break**



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11.45 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Session II. **South Asia Review—Afghanistan in SAARC**

Speakers: Najmuddin Shaikh, *Pakistan's Recent Initiatives in Waziristan*

Ajai Shukla, *The Recent Donor's Conference*

Chair: C Rajamohan

There are ongoing peace processes in and/or between many of the South Asian countries. While the Afghanistan-Pakistan peace process remains quite tense and volatile, the India-Pakistan peace process is somewhat more stable (though progress is limited by continuing acts of violence). The two peace processes are also indirectly linked because the Pakistani military, and religious parties and/or groups, are concerned with both. How do the recent agreements in Waziristan and Helmand, and the Joint Counter-Terrorism Mechanism between India and Pakistan, impact on each?

1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Break

2.00 – 3.30 p.m. Session III. **South Asia Review—Nepal**

Speakers: Pradeep Giri, *The New Peace Agreements*

SD Muni, ... *Can They Endure?*

Sakuntala Kadirgamar-Rajasingham, *When International Support Helps*

Chair: Ashok Mehta

Today the Nepal peace process is further down the road than any other South Asian peace process insofar as recognizing key issues is concerned; it is dealing both with root cause issues of democracy and development, and with critical peace-building issues such as DDR strategies. India's decision to support a rapprochement between the Maoists and the democratic political parties for a return to the constitutional process played an important role, especially as it garnered both EU and U.S. support, which in turn brought China on board. Will the promising trend continue?

3.30 – 3.45 p.m. Break





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3.45 – 5.00 p.m.

Session IV. The Wider Neighborhood, Potential for Destabilization /Stabilization

Speakers: Amarnath Ram, *Evolving Security Architecture in
the Asia-Pacific*

Emanuele Giordana, *Indonesian Peace Processes*

Amine Ait-Chaalal, *The Prognosis for West Asia*

Chair: KS Rana

Simmering conflicts in West Asia – Iraq, Israel-Palestine, the attack on Lebanon, and the looming conflict with Iran – as well as growing non-state radicalism in South-East Asia – all threaten stabilization processes in Asia, and the former three also impact on Europe's Muslim populations. Can India and the European countries cooperate in peace and stabilization for any of these regions, and if so in which ways?

Following on from these issues, the conflicts in the Middle East/West Asia are in danger of creating Huntington's predicted Clash of Civilizations across borders worldwide. Can it be averted, and if so, how?

November 28, 2006

10.00 – 11.30 a.m.

Session V. Democracy and Pluralism in India – Does it Work?

Speakers: Anita Inder Singh, *Democracy and Pluralism in
India – Does it Work?*

Janaki Rajan, *Bridge-Building between Communities*

Chair: Mushirul Hasan



India has long been respected as a country whose democracy and pluralism have protected it from intense and fratricidal communal and inter-ethnic violence. But the increasing frequency of armed and/terrorist attacks has begun to polarize Indians, as has the impact of the US-led war on terrorism. How far can the Indian model work in preserving pluralism in this context? Can the peace process initiatives that India is engaged in help?

11.30 – 11.45 a.m.

Break



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11.45 a.m. – 1.00 p.m. Session VI. Democracy and Pluralism in Europe – Does it Work?

Speakers: Peter Pringle, *The Challenges to European Pluralism*

Martin Mansergh, *Getting the Democratic Institutions of the Irish Peace Process to Work*

Chair: Rajan Abhyankar

The Madrid and London bombings and the Paris riots have each, in their different ways, underlined challenges to democracy and pluralism in Europe, as have the Danish cartoon controversy and its fallout. There are, admittedly, different European models of democracy and pluralism in Europe – from the Spanish federation of regions to the French integration model to the British practice of living together separately. How far can any of these models work in preserving pluralism in the present context? Taking the Irish peace process example, how does democracy play on the ground – can the joint governing institutions reconcile the two communities?

1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Break

2.00 – 3.30 p.m. Session VII. Democratic Transitions in Africa, Old and New

Speakers: Raymond Suttner, *“The ANC as Ruling Party – Phase II”*, Bol Gatkouth, *“Implementing the Sudan Peace Agreement”*



Since the end of the Cold War, African countries have been in flux, with South Africa transiting rapidly to democracy, other countries such as Sudan seeking to transit out of conflict, and still other countries struggling to emerge from post-colonial and Cold War conflicts. A general rise in rates of growth across the continent provides opportunities for peace-building – but are they being adequately utilized?



Simultaneously, the process of democratization is strewn with obstacles, as even South Africa’s relatively smooth transition indicates. What does the South African experience imply for other African countries that are democratizing?

3.30 – 3.45 p.m. Break



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3.45 – 5.30 p.m:

Session VIII. Lessons Learned—India and Europe

Conference Rapporteurs: Adrian Guelke and John Doyle

Chair: Radha Kumar

What are the lessons that India and European countries can learn from the above, in order to work together more effectively for collective security?





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Participants List

1. Gianni De Michelis, former foreign minister of Italy, Member European Parliament
2. Ambassador Francisco Da Camara Gomez, EU ambassador to India
3. Najmuddin Shaikh, former foreign secretary of Pakistan
4. Nader Nadery, Independent Human Rights Commission of Afghanistan
5. Professor Adrian Guelke, Centre for Ethnic Relations, Queen's University Belfast
6. Professor Stefano Silvestri, President and Head of Defence and Security Studies, Istituto Affari Internazionali (IAI) and Commentator, Il Sole 24 Ore.
7. Bol Gatkouth, MP, South Sudan
8. Senator Martin Mansergh, Ireland
9. Pradeep Giri, Nepali Congress
10. Raymond Suttner, University of South Africa, former ambassador of South Africa to Sweden
11. Sakuntala Kadirgamar-Rajasingham, Head South Asia Division, International IDEA, Sweden
12. Peter Pringle, writer, UK
13. Professor Emanuele Giordana, journalist, Italy
14. Professor Amine Ait-Chaalal, Co-directeur, Centre d'études des crises et conflits internationaux (CECRI) and Université catholique de Louvain (UCL)
15. Professor John Doyle, Dublin City University
16. Nalin Surie, Secretary West, Ministry External Affairs
17. Nitin Desai, Delhi Policy Group
18. Professor Mushirul Hasan, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia
19. Ambassador Amarnath Ram, Chairman, Chairman of India National Committee of Council for Security Cooperation in Asia Pacific (CSCAP) and Honorary Advisor to India Study Centers in Thailand and Belgium.
20. Vice-Admiral Yaswant Prasad, former Vice-Chief of Naval Staff
21. N.N. Vohra, former Defence and Home Secretary of India
22. Ambassador K. S. Rana, Secretary General CSCAP
23. Professor Ved Marwah, Centre for Policy Research
24. Anikendra Nath Sen, Managing Director, Asia Pacific Communication Associates
25. PK Ghosh, ICSSR
26. Prabol Ghose
27. Major General Ashok Mehta
28. Professor S.D.Muni, Observer Research Foundation
29. Ashok Jaitly, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy Research Foundation of India
30. Arun Maira, Boston Consulting Group





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33. Prabol Ghose
34. Ligia Noronha, The Energy Research Foundation of India
35. Ambassador Ranjit Gupta
36. Yogesh Saksena, United Nations Consultant
37. Poonam Mutreja, Country Coordinator, Macarthur Foundation
38. Anita Inder Singh, Fellow, Jawaharlal Nehru University
39. Yogendra Yadav, Centre for Study of Developing Societies
40. Sonia Shukla, Consultant
41. Ajai Shukla, NDTV
42. Professor Brij Tankha, Institute for China Studies, Centre for the Study of Developing Societies
43. General Ramesh Chopra, Senior Strategic and Corporate Advisor
44. Amrit Srinivasan, Indian Institute of Technology, New Delhi
45. Ravni Thakur, Delhi University
46. Renu Wadehra, Advisor, Norwegian Embassy
47. Professor Janaki Rajan, Jamia Millia Islamia
48. Seema Mustafa, journalist, Asian Age
49. Renuka Srinivasan, Advisor, Thematic Budget Lines, EU
50. Cristina Martins Barreira, EC Delegation to India
51. Anne-Vaugier Chatterjee, EC Delegation to India
52. Ambassador Tarachand Pokhral, Ambassador Nepal
53. Ambassador Kieran Dowling, Ambassador, Ireland
54. Sushil K. Aaron, Political Advisor, British High Commission
55. Shairi Mathur, Research Assistant, Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping, United Service Institution of India
56. Professor Radha Kumar, Jamia Millia Islamia and Delhi Policy Group
57. Brigadier Arun Mishra, Delhi Policy Group
58. Ellora Puri, Delhi Policy Group
59. Pradeep Rao, Delhi Policy Group
60. Imran Nabi, Delhi Policy Group
61. Gilles Verniers, Science-Po, Paris
62. Erwan Katter, Science-Po, Paris

