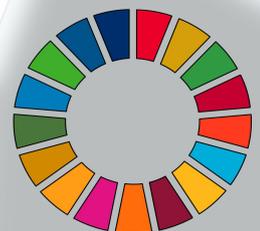
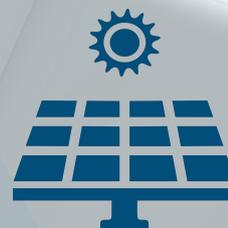




Advancing Economic Security

International Conference on
Non-Traditional Economic and Security
Risks
in a Globalized World
Conference Report &
Compilation of
Session Proceedings



Executive Summary

The dynamics of global economic and security challenges have significantly shifted today with the emergence of multifarious factors, particularly aided by the age of digitization. In the early and mid-20th century threats to humanity were limited to military threats posed by countries at war with each other. However, as democracies settled, and the global population continued to boom, many other non-traditional factors came to the forefront that threatened economic development and peaceful & sustainable livelihood of mankind. Non-traditional risks can typically be defined as the threats for nations emanating from non-military sources such as poverty, climate change, energy, resources scarcity, infectious diseases, natural disasters, irregular migration, food shortages, people smuggling, drug trafficking and transnational crime. Under these emerging circumstances, it is imperative that the countries join hands under multi-stakeholder partnerships to adopt smart, intuitive solutions for these non-traditional risks that endangers the life of humans.

On that note, **Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)** and **The Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance (IPAG) Asia Pacific** organized a one-day international conference titled: **Non-Traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalized World** on November 28 (Thursday), 2019 at the India Habitat Center, New Delhi, India. The conference held threadbare discussions on key areas of non-traditional security issues under the following four thematic sessions:

1 Environmental & Energy Security
Challenges of Climate Change and Zero Carbon Emission

2 Migration
The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena

3 Impact of Trans-National Crime and Rise of the Cyber World on Regional Economies
Innovative Response Mechanism to Counter Online & Offline Threats

4 Human and Economic Security
Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability

The conference brought together relevant stakeholders from the non-traditional economic and security landscape, to discuss the pressing issues threatening the safe and sustainable livelihood of humans and chart ways to map a strategy under a global shared initiative that ensures wellbeing and promotes prosperity.

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Part I: Concept Note

Conference Agenda

Non-Traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalized World

Venue: Gulmohar Hall, India Habitat Centre (IHC), New Delhi, India

Date & Time: November 28 (Thursday), 2019

Host Organization & Conference Lead: Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Knowledge Partner & Conference Organizer: IPAG Asia Pacific

8:30 am – 9:00 am	Registration
9.00 am – 10.20 am (80 mins)	Event Schedule
9.00 am – 9.10 am (10 min)	<p>Keynote Presentation</p> <p>Dr. R R Rashmi Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, The Energy Resources institute (TERI), New Delhi, India</p>
9.10 am – 9.25 am (5 min each total 15 min)	<p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>1. Nicolas Loris Herbert and Joyce Morgan Fellow in Energy and Environmental Policy, Center for Free Markets and Regulatory Reform, The Heritage Foundation, US</p> <p>2. Dr. Simon CHIN-YEE Research Fellow, European Centre for Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS), War Studies, King's College London</p> <p>3. Dr. Nagesh Kumar Director and Head, South and South-West Asia (SSWA) Office UNESCAP, New Delhi</p> <p>Moderator</p> <p>Subhomoy Bhattacharjee Consultant, RIS</p>
9.25 am – 9.55 am (30 Minutes)	Inter Panel Discussion
9.55 am – 10.20 am (25 Minutes)	Q&A and Open Floor Discussion
10.20 am – 10.40 am (20 mins)	Coffee Break

Session II: Migration The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena	
10.40 am – 12.00 pm (80 mins)	Event Schedule
10.40 am – 10.50 am (10 min)	Keynote Presentation Paul Power CEO, Refugee Council of Australia
10.50 am – 11.05 am (5 min each total 15 min)	Panel Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr. Barbara Kolm, Ph.D. Director and Founder Austrian Economics Center, and President Friedrich A. v. Hayek Institute, Vienna 2. Oscar Mundia Chief of Mission, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, India and the Maldives 3. Dr. Amitabh Kundu Distinguished Fellow, RIS
11.05 am – 11.35 am (30 Minutes)	Moderator Navsharan Singh Senior Programme Specialist, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), New Delhi
11.35 am – 12.00 pm (25 Minutes)	Inter Panel Discussion Q&A and Open Floor Discussion
Business Session	
12.00 pm – 12:50 am (50 Minutes)	Event Schedule
12.00 pm – 12.05 pm (5 Minutes)	Welcome Note Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
12.05 pm – 12.10 pm (5 Minutes)	Opening Remarks Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, IPAG Asia Pacific
12.10 pm - 12.25 pm (15 Minutes)	Keynote Speech

<p>12.25 pm – 12.35 pm (15 Minutes)</p> <p>12.35 pm – 12.40 pm (5 minutes)</p> <p>12.40 pm – 12.45 pm (5 minutes)</p>	<p>Prof. S.D. Muni Professor Emeritus School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)</p> <p>Audio-Visual</p> <p>Book launch</p> <p>Group Photo</p>
<p>12.45 pm – 2.0 pm (75 Minutes)</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p>
<p>total 15 min)</p> <p>2.25 pm – 2.55 pm (30 Minutes)</p> <p>2.55 pm – 3.20 pm (25 Minutes)</p>	<p>1. Dr. Kyung-Shick Choi Director Cybercrime Investigation & Cybersecurity (CIC,) Boston University</p> <p>2. Alok Bansal Director, Centre for Security & Strategy, India Foundation</p> <p>3. Dr. Priyadarshi Dash Assistant Professor, RIS</p> <p>Moderator</p> <p>Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, IPAG Asia Pacific</p> <p>Inter Panel Discussion</p> <p>Q&A and Open Floor Discussion</p>
<p>3.20 pm – 3.40 pm (20 Minutes)</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p align="center">Session IV: Human and Economic Security Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability</p>	
<p>3.40 pm – 5.00 pm (80 Mins)</p>	<p>Event Schedule</p>
<p>3.40 pm – 3.50 pm (10 min)</p> <p>3.50 pm – 4.05 pm (5 min each total 15 min)</p>	<p>Keynote Presentation</p> <p>Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)</p> <p>Panel Discussion</p> <p>1. Dr. Joseph Siracusa Professor of Human Security and International Diplomacy School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Australia</p> <p>2. Dr. P.K. Anand</p>

<p>4.05 pm – 4.35 pm (30 Minutes)</p> <p>4.35 pm – 5.00 pm (25 Minutes)</p>	<p>Visiting Fellow, RIS</p> <p>3. Krishna Kumar Visiting Fellow, RIS</p> <p>Moderator</p> <p>Ms. Hitomi Kubo Resource Mobilization Officer, Human Security Unit, United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security</p> <p>Inter Panel Discussion</p> <p>Q&A and Open Floor Discussion</p>
<p>Closing Ceremony</p>	
<p>5:00 pm – 5:30 pm (30 Minutes)</p>	<p>Event Schedule</p>
<p>(15 minutes)</p> <p>(10 minutes)</p> <p>(5 minutes)</p>	<p>Valedictorian Speech Shri Pradyot Chandra Haldar President, Policy Perspectives Foundation</p> <p>Summary of Conference Proceedings Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG) Asia Pacific</p> <p>Vote of Thanks Mr. Mahesh Arora Director (Finance and Administration), Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)</p>
<p>7:30 pm – 9:00 pm (90 Minutes)</p>	<p>Closing Dinner</p>



Advancing Economies by Securing the Planet

Non-Traditional Economic and Security Risks in a Globalized World

New Delhi, India

November 28 (Thursday), 2017



RIS
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries
विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली



IPAG
IPAG Asia Pacific



Business Session

Keynote Speech



Prof. S. D. Muni
Professor Emeritus
School of International Studies,
Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)

Welcome Note



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries (RIS)

Opening Remarks



Syed Munir Khasru
Chairman
IPAG Asia Pacific

Panel 1: Environmental & Energy Security

Challenges of Climate Change and Zero Carbon Emission

Keynote Speaker



Dr. R R Rashmi
Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director,
Earth Science and Climate Change,
The Energy Resources Institute (TERI)
New Delhi, India

Moderator



Subhomoy Bhattacharjee
Consulting Editor, Business Standard, &
Consultant Research and Information
System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Panelist



Dr. Nagesh Kumar
Director and Head,
South and South-West Asia (SSWA)
UNESCAP, New Delhi



Nicolas Loris
Herbert and Joyce Morgan Fellow in
Energy and Environmental Policy,
Center for Free Markets and
Regulatory Reform, The Heritage
Foundation



Dr. Simon CHIN-YEE
Research Fellow,
European Centre for Energy and
Resource Security (EUCERS),
Department of War Studies,
King's College London



Session 11: Migration

The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena

Keynote Speaker



Mr. Paul Power
CEO
Refugee Council of Australia

Moderator



Navsharan Singh
Senior Programme Specialist
International Development Research
Centre (IDRC), New Delhi

Panelist



Dr. Barbara Kolm, Ph.D.
Director and Founder, Austrian
Economics Center, and President,
Friedrich A. v. Hayek Institute,
Vienna & Vice President,
Austrian Central Bank



Dr. Amitabh Kundu
Distinguished Fellow,
Research and Information System for
Developing Countries (RIS)



Oscar Mundia
Chief of Mission, United Nations
High Commissioner for Refugees
(UNHCR), India and the Maldives



Innovative Response Mechanism to Counter Online & Offline Threats

Keynote Speaker



Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas
Director, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), Italy

Moderator



Syed Munir Khasru
Chairman
IPAG Asia Pacific

Panelist



Dr. Kyung-Shick Choi
Director, Cybercrime Investigation & Cybersecurity (CIC)
Boston University



Alok Bansal
Director
Centre for Security & Strategy
India Foundation



Dr. Priyadarshi Dash
Assistant Professor
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries (RIS)



Session IV: Human and Economic Security

Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability

Keynote Speaker



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi
Director General, Research and Information
System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Moderator



Hitomi Kubo
Resource Mobilization Officer,
Human Security Unit, United Nations Trust
Fund for Human Security

Panelist



Dr. Joseph Siracusa
Professor of Human Security and
International Diplomacy,
School of Global, Urban and Social
Studies, RMIT University, Australia



Dr. P.K. Anand
Visiting Fellow
Research and Information System for
Developing Countries (RIS)



Krishna Kumar
Visiting Fellow
Research and Information System
for Developing Countries (RIS)



Closing Session



Shri Pradyot Chandra Haldar
President
Policy Perspectives Foundation



Syed Munir Khasru
Chairman
IPAG Asia Pacific



Mahesh Arora
Director (Finance and Administration),
Research and Information System for
Developing Countries (RIS)

Background

Non-traditional economic and security issues are challenges to the survival and well-being of people and the states that arise primarily out of sources such as climate change, resources scarcity, infectious diseases, natural disasters, irregular migration, food shortages, people smuggling, drug trafficking and transnational crime. These dangers are often transnational in scope, defying unilateral remedies and requiring comprehensive – political, economic, social responses, as well as humanitarian use of military force.

The methods and tools employed to address non-traditional challenges are evolving. It includes unconventional thinking and challenges orthodox understandings. Threats to humanity are not confined within the boundaries of military warfare anymore. The 21st century presents new paradigms to security. Politico-military threats have been joined by issues relating to economy, energy, water, food, environment, climate change, and so on. These multilateral issues need to be tackled through multi-stakeholder coordination and cooperation for sustainable development of mankind.

Economic Security remains to be the greatest issue towards welfare of mankind. Over 700 million people lived on less than US\$1.90 a day in 2015, out of which 200 million resided in South Asia alone. While rapid growth in countries such as China and India has lifted millions out of poverty, progress has been uneven. In addition, women are more likely to be poor than men as they have less paid work, education, and own less property. Food, clean drinking water and sanitation has been part of the core issues in the region. It has been estimated by India's NITI Aayog in 2018 that 21 major Indian cities will run out of water by 2020, jeopardizing the livelihoods of 100 million people in the country.

On the other hand, crime and smuggling through borders have been a longstanding issue, which has only become worse in recent times. It is estimated that drug trafficking across the borders costs approximately US\$344 billion globally, while the smuggling of counterfeit products costs US\$288 billion and human trafficking costs US\$157 billion. Transnational crime syndicates have equipped themselves with digital tools to source and channel their finances swiftly and securely. Digital connectivity opens a Pandora's box with all sectors today, in one way or the other, being connected through the internet, thus making them vulnerable to cyber-attacks. Cybercrimes are expected to annually cost global economy US\$6 trillion by 2021, which was only US\$3 trillion in 2015.

Forced Migration is another aspect that has been plaguing economies in recent years. Conflict and persecution caused global forced displacement to escalate sharply in recent years as one in every 113 humans are affected either as asylum-seeker, internally displaced or a refugee – a level of risk for which UNHCR knows no precedent. On the other hand, climate change has been worsening in recent decades as permanent alterations to Earth's geological, biological and ecological systems has led to an emergence of large-scale environmental hazards to human health, due to extreme weather, ozone depletion, increased danger of wildland fires, loss of biodiversity, stresses to food-producing systems and the global spread of infectious diseases. It is estimated that climate change is the cause of over

150,000 deaths every year. Being the second most populous country in the world, displacement related to natural disasters is a major issue of concern for India. Floods, earthquakes, and other natural calamities have caused the displacement of 3.6 million people every year in India during 2008-2018.

Against these multifarious risks and the complex geopolitical backdrop today, it is necessary that countries come together to create comprehensive, well-functioning, and efficient strategies through coordination, which not only keeps pace with the rising needs of globalization and economic development, but also ensures all kinds of security for human life.

Objectives of the International Conference

Through the conference, the idea was to bring into a common platform, policymakers, policy experts, practitioners, academicians, civil society members, media and other relevant stakeholders, who in the course of their deliberations and discussions will be able to shed light into how non-traditional economic and security threats can be countered through multi-stakeholder coordinated strategies in an increasingly connected & conflict-prone world today shaped by digital transformation. The Conference initiated discussions on the new partnership mechanisms, and global and regional networks that can be fostered to help governments leverage technology to tackle these risks. Some of the overarching objectives of the conference were to:



Create a common platform for policymakers, experts, researchers, and academia to discuss the nature and extent of non-traditional economic & security threats.



Understand how the multifarious threats interlink to influence geo-political and socio-economic relationship among states.



Explore roles of the state and non-state actors to minimize the security and economic threats and maximize efficiency for smooth coordination.



Understand the link of non-traditional economic and security threats with traditional forms, and how states can work together to formulate collaborative strategies.



Explore latest innovations of digital systems and how nations can leverage them to tackle the risks preemptively, swiftly, and effectively.

Thematic Sessions of the Conference



Session Rationale

Session I

Environmental & Energy Security: Challenges of Climate Change and Zero Carbon Emission

Energy is central to nearly every major challenge and opportunity the world faces today. Be it for jobs, security, climate change, food production or increasing incomes, access to energy for all is essential. Around one billion people today are functioning without electricity and 50 per cent of them are found in Sub-Saharan Africa alone. Fortunately, progress has been made in recent times regarding the use of renewable electricity from water, solar and wind power and the ratio of energy used per unit of GDP has declined.

The availability of energy sources, when we consider both fossil fuels and renewables, is increasing. The strong growth in renewable and distributed energy offers avenues to diversify the energy mix and thus improve energy security by reducing physical reliance and price exposure to only a few sources and countries. The cost of renewable sources of energy have drastically fallen with new innovations and technologies reducing production costs. For example, over the last decade the levelized cost per unit of electricity from new utility-scale onshore wind and photovoltaic (PV) solar power plants has dropped about 70 and 90 percent, respectively. In addition, the convergence of physical and digital infrastructure offers opportunities to improve efficiency, lower costs and increase access. However, there remains to be a lot more ground to cover in order to ensure safe, efficient, and sustainable energy for everyone in the planet, as energy costs are still high in many regions in the world.

Session II

Migration: The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena

Forced Migration has emerged as a key global issue in recent years with the Syrian war escalating, ongoing crisis in Congo, and the Rohingyas being driven out of Myanmar. The UN Refugee Agency's annual Global Trends study found that 68.5 million people had been driven from their homes across the world at the end of 2017. Out of this, refugees who have fled their countries to escape conflict and persecution accounted for 25.4 million. The journey for these forced migrants is often perilous with more than 4,000 annual fatalities since 2014, on migratory routes worldwide.

Given the recent escalation, migration has been labeled as a security and economic risk to many asylum countries which cite issues such as import of terrorists and criminals, or spread of infectious diseases. When forced migrants arrive in large numbers in a poor region, they place an enormous strain on public services and infrastructure and on the public purse, and they can also severely fray the social and political fabric, leading to deterioration of the investment climate. This session will explore the multifarious security and economic impacts of the global forced migration issue and discuss ways for relocation which are mutually beneficial for all stakeholders.

It would be important to bring the regional variation in demographic characteristics into consideration while assessing the potentials of economic absorption and threat to security in different countries. Of the 260 million international migrants, 110 million are Asians by birth. The female migrants outnumber the males in Europe, but the opposite is true in Asia and Africa where the migrants are predominantly men. The other major concern for Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Oceania is that here the age of the international migrants on an average is low and has gone down. Furthermore, the share of refugees has risen sharply in recent years. The number of refugees in the world was estimated at 26 million accounting for about 10 per cent of the international migrants. Since about 83 per cent of these refugees have come to the developing countries, it would be important to discuss the methodology for sharing the burden in a fair and equitable manner.

Given the volume of refugee population, the General Assembly adopted the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants in 2016 which requires the development of two global compacts. Furthermore, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development calls on countries to cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration and operationalisation of safeguards against violation of human rights. Unfortunately, the fixation of migration-related targets required for the compacts and the 2030 Agenda necessitates regular monitoring of the database.

Session III

Impact of Trans-National Crime and Rise of the Cyber World on Regional Economies: Innovative Response Mechanism to Counter Online & Offline Threats

The growth of the digital world through social media, e-commerce, and e-governance has made cyberspace a critical issue towards global growth. The world is in the midst of a deep technological transformation. Technologies which were developed and perfected during the last three decades of the millennia are now being integrated in ways which were not possible until very recently. These new fields rely on proven technologies such as mobile communication, storage, processing, and software to create entire new uses and industries. Technologies such as the “Internet of Things”, Artificial intelligence, and Blockchain- leverage existing tech in new ways and open a world of new business cases and utilities.

As the world gets more interconnected through the advance of digital technologies, criminal syndicates are becoming diligent, equipping themselves with advanced digital weapons that makes conducting crimes easy, and tracking difficult. Cyber-attacks today can cause electrical blackouts, failure of military equipment and breaches of national security secrets. They can result in the theft of valuable and sensitive data like medical records. They can disrupt phone and computer networks or paralyze systems, making data unavailable. Many organized crime syndicates are using cybercrimes as a means to funnel money for their ground operations. Governments and corporations are spending billions of dollars as the average cost of data breach to each company today have risen to USD 3.86 mn.

New IT applications such as IoT, Big Data, Machine Learning, Block Chain, Artificial Intelligence, etc. in financial sector services and transactions, broadly called as Financial Technologies (FinTech), have potentially serious security implications. Cyber risks amplify with the intensity of financial transactions happening worldwide as faster processing of data and information for lending, stock trading, insurance businesses and other financial services enables greater transmission of risks across entities and service providers. For instance, a common cloud computing platform providing services to a number of FinTech firms can expose all the firms in its network in case of security threats. This third-party risk exposure could impose heavy economic cost on the countries not having robust digital security frameworks.

In the international finance domain, growing pace of financial market integration across all segments including stock markets, bond markets and foreign exchange markets have increased the vulnerability of countries especially developing countries the risks and threats of money laundering, illicit finance flows and terrorist financing. The colossal loss of public money due to illegal financial transactions magnifies the resource burden of the affected countries in meeting the SDGs in view of pervasive resource constraints. Although the existing mechanisms for anti-money laundering and combating of financing terrorism already use digital space for tracking, identifying and reporting of suspicious transactions, the new disruptive technologies mentioned above would require real-time monitoring and firewalls to prevent future occurrence of fraud, corruption and fugitive economic activities.

Session IV

Human and Economic Security: Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability

Human security focuses on identifying and addressing widespread and cross-cutting challenges to the survival, livelihood and dignity of people. Economic security, a vital component of human security, deals with the ability of individuals, households or communities to cover their essential needs sustainably and with dignity. Food, basic shelter, clothing and hygiene qualify as essential needs, as does the related expenditure; the essential assets needed to earn a living, and the costs associated with health care and education also qualify. The UN developed Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is a universal call to adopt action to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. The 17 SDGs outline in detail specific goals that countries should target to achieve by 2030 to achieve human security through poverty eradication, health management, quality education, clean energy, equality, protecting environment, social stability etc.

The SDGs provide an ideal pathway for countries to achieve human security by countering threats that are widespread and cross-cutting, including economic, food, health, personal, community, political and environmental issues. This session will explore the ways the SDGs can be leveraged to achieve human and economic security and maintain the momentum of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), the predecessor to the SDGs, to ensure a happy, secured, and sustainable life for the people in the world.

Evolved after detailed stakeholder and inter-governmental deliberations SDGs raise aspirations of the socially vulnerable and economically hard-hit people from multi-dimensional poverty. SDGs through their targets and indicators especially national indicators set the course for allocative efficiencies for social upliftment and a fast-tracked economic journey to catch up in an inclusive and sustainable manner. In this stride various strategies to reduce barriers to security and provision of essential social services and decent livelihoods are pre-requisite for attaining a life full of dignity.

SDGs have brought a paradigm shift in the development policy and planning and in strategizing efforts to achieve human social security and prosperity. All the 17 SDGs are well balanced in demand, supply and stipulate actions for achieving its goal and targets. The basic objective of the SDGs is to bring prosperity with sustainability towards which the development efforts should be inclusive to bring sustainability with economic prosperity. Increasing productivity of labour and natural resources are therefore utmost important, which have been duly incorporated in the 2030 Agenda of which SDGs are at its core. However, achieving the set objectives of the 2030 Agenda requires regular review and follow up at various levels in which availability of robust data set is of prime importance. Statistical systems of many countries, including Developed world, do not produce adequate data to meet SDG requirements.

Organisers of the Conference

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)



Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is an autonomous policy research institute specializing in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. In addition to producing evidence for better policymaking, it also provides platform for effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on various issues. RIS also promotes South-South cooperation and is engaged across inter-governmental processes of several regional economic cooperation initiatives.

The Institute for Policy, Advocacy and Governance (IPAG)



The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG) is an independent, non-partisan, international think tank based in Asia Pacific (Australia), South Asia (India & Bangladesh), Middle East & North Africa (UAE), and Europe (Austria). IPAG's key areas of work among others include trade & economic development, Security and Strategic Affairs, SDGs & Green Growth, Regional Cooperation & Integration, Technology, Innovation & FIR, Migration and Resettlement, and Energy, Environment and Natural Resources.

As one of the youngest international think tanks in the world and in its 2nd year in Global Rankings, IPAG has been ranked 34th among the top 108 in the category "Top Think Tanks in Southeast Asia & the Pacific", 43rd among the top 132 in "International Development Policy" & 27th among the top 114 in "Think Tanks to Watch in 2019". The Global Ranking is done by The Think Tanks & Civil Societies Program (TTCSP) of the Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, US covering 8,000 think tanks in 179 countries.

IPAG works with well-respected international organizations, institutions, and individuals in making positive contribution towards achieving inclusive and sustainable development. As a pro-active 'Think' and 'Do' Tank, IPAG emphasizes on doing evidence-based policy research with a focus on providing solutions that effectively respond to real life problems and challenges. Towards that end, IPAG engages with policy makers, senior officials, think tanks, academia, private sector, civil society, and the media. IPAG maintains global outreach through collaboration with leading think tanks, research institutes and policy bodies around the world.

Part II:
Conference Proceedings

10 Key Recommendations

The concept of human security needs to be redefined, focusing on the human element at the core of it, and making it the crux of all forms of security, including state and military.

1

6

Financial institutions need to curtail their reliance on a single kind of software such as SWIFT, to reduce risks of breach.

There is a need for greater representation of the developing economies in setting development agenda for global institutions, for successful achievement of the SDGs.

2

7

Countries should start looking at entire carbon footprint of their projects rather than just emissions when assessing environmental risks.

Anything we do will have some kind of environmental effect, and at the end of the day it is about promoting policies that have positive effect in the long term.

3

8

Economies need to be more proactive with their adoption of renewable technologies, and investment in infrastructure is required to mitigate rather than just reacting to adversities.

Cybercrimes have become a quintessential trans-national form of crime of our times, and countries need to develop and update their laws and legislations to stay ahead of the tide.

4

9

States need to recognize the rights of refugees and not force them to go back to their country of origin unless it is safe for them.

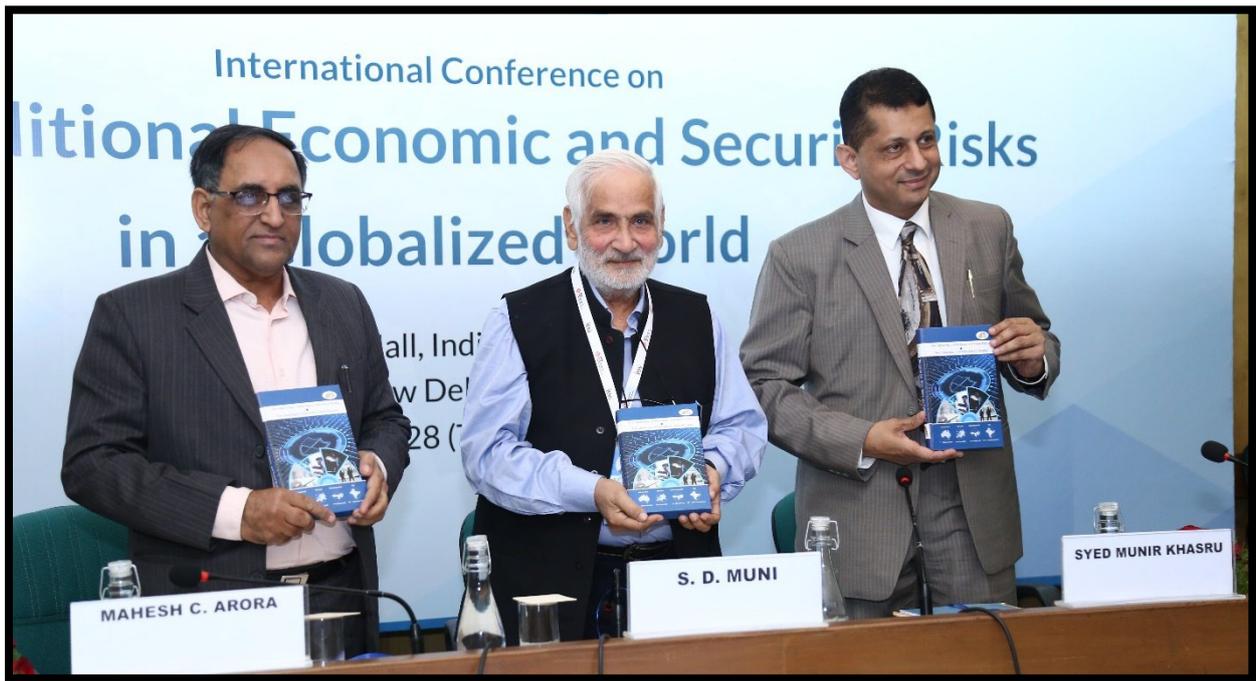
Institutions must follow ethical codes of conducts while dealing with data and it is important to support software security with hardware security for effective management.

5

10

There is a need to develop market-based solutions to tackle the refugee crisis, and it is important to leverage their creativity and entrepreneurial actions to reap the economic benefits of their absorption.

Book Launch



On the occasion of the conference, IPAG published a book titled **The Digital Age, Cyber Space, and Social Media: The Challenges of Security & Radicalization**. The book addresses some of the key issues related to resolving the conflicting goals of increasing global security – both offline and online – as well as promoting wider application of digital transformation. The book compiled 15 articles from experts around the world, broadly covering the following themes.

- Security and Intelligence in the Digital Age: Challenges & Responses
- Social Media as the Ideological Frontline in Cyber Space: Role of Tech Companies in Countering Online Radicalization
- Online Surveillance: Balancing Personal Privacy with State Security

The book is a compendium of articles from scholars, academics, and industry professionals from all over the world with expertise in important areas like cyber security, online & offline radicalization, social media platforms, regulatory & compliance issues, international best practices, data privacy & security etc. Some of the issues addressed in the volume are rising radicalization with the advent of social media & the internet, challenges & responses to intelligence & security ecosystem in the digital age, online self-radicalization and echo chambers. The volume also sheds lights on the response mechanisms for countering the threats of radicalization and cyber security and how various governmental and private organizations can cooperate, coordinate with as well as complement each other in addressing these common challenges. The book is available for purchase in the following link:

<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B082GZ3R38>



The Digital Age, Cyber Space, and Social Media
◆
The Challenges of Security & Radicalization



IPAG Asia Pacific	IPAG Europe	IPAG International FZE	IPAG
			
 Melbourne, Australia	 Vienna, Austria	 MENA (Dubai, UAE)	 Delhi & Dhaka (South Asia)

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The International Conference



Business Session

Role	Participants
Keynote Speech	Prof. S. D. Muni Professor Emeritus, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU)
Welcome Note	Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
Opening Remarks	Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, IPAG Asia Pacific



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi launched the proceedings of the conference through his welcome note, glossing over the multifarious dimensions of economic and security threats of non-traditional forms, as vulnerabilities today can be expanded and multiplied in various ways. He relished the forthcoming discussions during the conference on these kinds of challenges that we face when thinking of expanding the footprints of globalization and attempting to connect the larger economic and security issues. As part of his role for the board

of Reserve Bank of India (RBI), he often faces questions emanating out of the larger global challenges, particularly in terms of the new technologies coming in the financial sector. He also noted that the challenges and vulnerabilities are multiplying fast today and corresponding systems being developed to cope up with them have the element of ingenuity within their efforts.

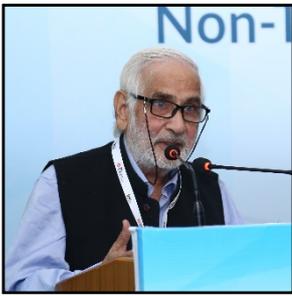
He also highlighted the importance of being aware of the challenges about migration, particularly in the context of Bangladesh and the Rohingya crisis. He ended his speech with a very warm welcome to all the distinguished guests and participants.



Mr. Syed Munir Khasru, Chairman, IPAG Asia Pacific next provided the opening remarks for the conference. He commenced his speech citing the ubiquity of smartphones today, which were launched merely a decade ago in 2007. Without smartphones, most people feel insecure nowadays, and with that comes various sorts of challenges. Social media and the overall cyberspace are opening infinite opportunities as we are about to enter the Fourth Industrial Revolution (FIR). When 3.4 billion people in the world have access to the internet, 4.5 billion people a mobile phone, a whole new dimension of security arises. South Asia, one of the fastest-growing regions, has a population size of 1.8 billion, out of which a significant portion live with an income of less than US\$2 per day. There are a lot of contradictory forces that hence exist today.

He also stated how the four sessions of the conference addressed some fundamental issues. He explained how refugees displaced from their origins and safe domain, climate-induced or forced migration, are looking for having the right to access basic needs like food, shelter. They can become a security threat for this lack of basic rights. On the cyberspace, he mentioned that in 2015, cybercrime cost US\$3 trillion globally and it is estimated that by 2025, it will jump up to US\$6 trillion, a significant sum of money. He remarked that we live in uncharted territory today as we face these challenges. The Socioeconomic Externalities of Technological Advancement (SITA) is the main challenge we are facing. With the rise of every new technology, opportunity and risk rise equally. Today, toddlers start their early childhood with smartphones or iPad. Hence, the basic orientation is on a different level. Some of today's babies can be the next generation tech leader like Steve Jobs or Bill gates. If not on the right track, some can go haywire, making today's times challenging. He also mentioned that the whole purpose of this one-day session was to push the boundaries to make us realize to look little closely at the current situation. Instead of being dissuaded by what is happening around us, he suggested that we should have a deeper look and start asking questions.

He ended his remarks expressing his gratitude to RIS. This was a classic example of how thinktanks across nations can come together because the challenge that beckons us today and the risks that we have to tackle transgress boundaries, borders, and nationalities. He concluded that we all needed to be on board at the same time on the same ship.



Prof. S.D. Muni launched the proceedings of the conference through his Keynote Speech during the Business Session of the conference. He highlighted the transition that the world is currently ongoing where security threats from inter-state wars are receding if not completely obliterated. While the human security concerns and non-traditional security threats are raising in numbers and complexities. Some of these threats have the potential to trigger larger inter-state conflicts and conventional wars. The non-traditional forms of security threats are numerous and varied including poverty, environmental degradation and climate change, failing states and terrorism, cyber and organized crimes, illegal migration, human security, bank frauds and economic slumps, money laundering and fake currencies, drugs, arms and human trafficking, water and food crisis. In addition to the different themes identified for discussion in all the four sessions of the conference, terrorism is another major threat confronting the world today because of the issues in Afghanistan and the shifting terrain of Islamic State from Syria and Iraq towards the South East Asian countries. Terrorism has been costing the world nearly 21,000 deaths per annum. In 2017, 95% of these deaths took place in Africa, west and south Asia.

Speaking about the environmental problems, he highlighted that they are much beyond the energy crisis and emphasized the various complex dimensions of environmental issues including extinction of different biological species, soil erosion, forest fires, acidifying water bodies, frequent and devastating cyclones and draughts. It is estimated that the climate change and environmental degradation will take a toll of 237 million lives by 2050. In Asia, India's share of this toll is estimated to be 36 million. These threats largely highlight the darker side of globalization. Some of these challenges, though existed earlier, have been reinforced and made more lethal by globalization. Globalization has grown on the foundation of neo liberal global order. The growth based new neo liberal developmental strategies have vastly contributed to different sets of non-traditional threats. The extractive assault on the nature driven by developmental dynamics has caused the host of environmental issues. The unequal distribution of growth and incomes in society has fed into various social events including terrorism. Spread of economic inequality, technologies of communication and living standards, excessive exploitation of the natural resources have made these threats worrisome.

Illegal migration deserves a more nuanced and sophisticated response. It has two facets: Firstly, forced migration, which is a humanitarian issue. If financially stimulated, migration is an economic enterprise and a labour movement phenomenon. In both these facets, it needs a nuanced and careful handling. As an economic activity, migration also provides economic backup and social service in the host country. There have been and always will be some situations when the raise of economic and cultural nationalism impinges rudely on the migrants. In addition, associating the migrated population with terrorism is politically motivated and highly exaggerated perception. He also noted the differences in these regards in the developing and developed world. The US and the European countries have raised formidable walls and barriers through visa regimes and border control mechanisms to keep immigrants at bay while offering swaps to the areas from where the migrants originated. The way Bhutanese refugees of Nepali origin were absorbed by the international communities provided an out of the box response to this problem. Institutionalization of these kind of approaches are absolutely essential. In

Asia, some countries are trying to push the immigrants into respective neighbouring countries for ethnic and political reasons. New citizenship rules in Asian countries in response to the Myanmar and Rohingya crisis is an example for the same.

Non-traditional security threats have an inherently trans-national character, but they operate at various levels namely individual, national, trans-national and global. The degree and intensity of their operations at all these levels is growing fast and diverse responses are emanating. At the Global level, the world is shaken by Greta Thunberg's efforts to fight to save the earth for coming generations and even at the state level, melodramatic policy moves have been made like Maldives government's cabinet meeting under the sea and also the odd-even vehicle policy in India's capital city. All diverse regional organizations beginning with EU and including ASEAN, BIMTEC, SAARC have adopted resolutions to fight against these threats.

At global level, the adoption of SDGs in 2015, the Paris pact on climate change in 2016 and Responsibility to Protect in 2005 were landmark decisions in this respect. Translating these resolutions and commitments into concrete policy initiatives for diffusing the non-traditional security threats have been far below the expectations. He suggested that the Paris Climate pact in itself was a compromised document where 136 of the 184 commitments were inadequate to achieve the global warming targets. The pact has suffered serious setbacks following the US unilateral un-provoked withdrawal from it under the Trump administration. The latest assessment by the UN is that the greenhouse emissions are raising at a rate of 1.5% per annum in the past decade and the world is heading towards 3.2o C temperature raise by 2100. For attaining 1.5o C level, we have to increase our efforts three-fold and focus on 4 major sources of emission namely industrialization, construction, hydrocarbons and land use. All the eyes today are on the forthcoming conference on climate change in Madrid to streamline some of the emission targets and persuade developed countries to meet their own emission, financial and technological commitments.

Terrorism is still groping for a universally accepted definition and a financial action task force to control funding of the terrorists is yet to demonstrate its deterrent power. The rouge states sponsoring terrorism continue to operate unheeded today. Playing terrorism as strategic tool of foreign and security policies, military approaches to counter terrorism have only eliminated terrorists but not terrorism. Very little has been done to de-radicalize the ideological and political fronts of terrorism. Families, social and cultural groups, political and religious leaders can play a creative role in this respect.

Even with the SDGs, the outcome of an otherwise a well-integrated and sincere approach was broadly a hastily aggregated consensus in the realm of development. There is no prioritization of the 17 identified goals and their implementation is left to voluntary action. On part of all the 193 states, some of the goals are inherently inconsistent like socio-economic development and environmental protection. There is no attempt to rethink the neo liberal developmental strategy which is at the root of conflict between development and environment. Under then SDGs, 230 indicators have been developed for 169 specific targets but the availability of reliable and standardized data in social, economic and environmental fields are absent, scarce or fudged. The states have differing capabilities to pursue these

goals and the flow of resources and technology from the better equipped to the less capable states is slow and tardy. It will indeed be a miracle if desirable results are achieved for all of the SDGs by 2030. Despite these constraints, some states are pursuing these goals seriously within their capabilities. Both India and Bangladesh have impressive record in this respect. Broadening of the state efforts to include the corporate sector and the civil society groups will enhance the SDG efficiency. A study of the world's 76 largest companies shows that though these companies are actively engaged in pursuing SDGs, their approaches are inconsistent, profit motivated, and lacking transparency. Humanitarians and the corporate leaders have to be encouraged to bring spirit to their SDGs.

The reasons behind our failure in dealing with the non-traditional threats are many and varied. Radical initiatives at all the levels are needs of the hour. This is all the more important as we, the individuals prepare to re-think our lifestyles and conveniences, reformulate our developmental priorities, and make required sacrifices by cutting down on consumerism, reducing the usage of cars and reducing our time watching Netflix and Prime videos. The states have only articulated and documented their collective commitments to fight the threats. But the real political will to walk the talk at the national, regional and global levels is fragile and fragmented. Political regimes pursue shortcuts to survival and persistence. They are focused on immediate outcomes but not on sustainable efforts. Regional and multilateral organizations are moved by strategic objectives where individual members do not hesitate to sacrifice collective well-being for their individual and narrow political benefits.

The global powers are no less self-centered. The UN undertook the responsibility to protect innocent civilians even militarily from their aggressive states in the interest of human security. But all these have been employed largely to serve the strategic gains of powerful. In the region, Dr. Muni pointed out some key recent setbacks such as Pakistan's refusal on regional connectivity proposals at 2014 SAARC summit, Bhutan's tentativeness with the BBIN Motor vehicle pact and Cambodia's refusal to endorse code of conduct move for the South China Sea in 2012 ASEAN summit. As we move towards our further path from here, major questions regarding the state and mankind need to be answered and innovative solutions need to be formulated to address them.

Session I**Environmental & Energy Security:
Challenges of Climate Change and Zero Carbon Emission**

Role	Participants
Keynote Speaker	Dr. R R Rashmi Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, The Energy Resources institute (TERI), New Delhi, India
Moderator	Subhomoy Bhattacharjee Consultant Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
Panelist	Nicolas Loris Herbert and Joyce Morgan Fellow in Energy and Environmental Policy, Center for Free Markets and Regulatory Reform, The Heritage Foundation, US
	Dr. Simon CHIN-YEE Research Fellow, European Centre for Energy and Resource Security (EUCERS), War Studies, King's College London
	Dr. Nagesh Kumar Director and Head, South and South-West Asia (SSWA) Office UNESCAP, New Delhi

Initial Remarks

The session started with the Keynote speech of **Dr. R R Rashmi** who spoke about the environmental threat as the next major and immediate global threat, after the threat of nuclear war and poverty. He cited concerns regarding inclusive growth and environmental threat as two sides of the same coin. One of the reasons this threat has remained unaddressed for so long is that the scientists were not able to quantify the true extent and scale of the problem. Due to

improvement in availability of scientific and quantifiable data, the analysis has improved in recent times to assist decision makers in making correct assessment of the future. At the same time, we also need to address the underlying causes behind increasing resource consumption to address the causes of future environmental degradation. Our actions should cover four major challenges when we talk of energy:

- **Lack of Energy Access:** Large number of people still don't have energy access.
 - **High Emissions caused by Energy versus the requirement to consume Energy:** Economic development requires consumption of energy. But we need to balance the same for sustainable development.
 - **Challenge in transition towards renewable resources**
 - **Challenge of Energy Supply:** Managing the supply of energy amidst ongoing geopolitical tensions
- We have known the major challenges like emission of toxic wastes since 30-40 years, but we haven't been able to solve the crisis. There is a challenge if we can reduce the emissions scale at which they must be reduced. Technological Models must be combined with right business models to make them succeed. High investments are needed in the technology to be able to curb the risks posed to environment by emissions and use of non-renewable resources.



Dr. Nagesh Kumar mentioned during his initial remarks that the affordability of renewable energy sources has been increasing. He also cited the reduced focus on coal powered plants and shifting of focus to renewable sources of energy which are being facilitated by UN. The sharing of renewable energy sources between member states has been facilitated as well. UNESCAP has been working with institutions like International Solar alliance to promote usage of solar power in Asia.



Dr. Chin-Yee then led the discussion on vulnerable populations of countries such as the Philippines, Tuvalu, Mozambique. This focused on various non-traditional risks to human security, such as:

- **Sea Level Rise:** Many small island developing states, such as the Pacific Island state of Kiribati, are raising questions on right to exist. Sea level rise and the proliferation of extreme weather events pose an increasing risk to these small island states. As such, in the UN Climate negotiations (COP25), they may not be the most economically powerful countries in the room, but they have some of the loudest voices.
- **Climate Change:** The polarising notion of the climate 'refugee' – what do you do when your entire population is forced to relocate? For small island states it is mitigation, not migration that is the answer to the threat posed by climate change.
- **Cross border migration and internally displaced people** – increased violent conflict as people are forced to move from their traditional lands due to desertification.
- **Threat Multiplier:** The US, EU, UK include climate change in their security strategies – the risks posed by climate change can destabilize the already volatile situations in vulnerable countries,

such as India, Indonesia and South Africa.



Nicholas Loris focused his remarks on the growing need and concern for action on climate change but, there is an overwhelming willingness to not pay for it. The fundamental question focused on ways to increase affordable and reliable energy. Two solutions were tabled during the discussion, which were:

- **Innovation:** Natural Gas for example has helped US in growing sustainably.
- **Free Market:** Free Market helps in discovery of right prices accepted by consumers and foster innovation.

Barriers to the investment of energy and innovation also came up during the discussions, and there were three major ones identified:

- **Regulatory Barriers:** Regulations and bureaucracy increase time required to permit new technologies.
- **Trade wars:** Ongoing trade wars have increased the cost of developing new technologies.
- **Energy Subsidies:** Energy subsidies create dependence on government and public finance and is not beneficial in long term.

Intra-Panel Discussion and Q&A Session



The Panel Discussion, moderated by **Subhomoy Bhattacharjee**, started with Dr Rashmi who highlighted the high dependence on Coal and Hydrocarbon based Energy Generation and Consumption. Another challenge in this regard is that while the costs of energy efficient resources are incurred today, the benefits are obtained in the long term. Though energy efficiency may be improving, carbon efficiency isn't improving at the same rate, and investment in technologies is required to improve this carbon intensity.

Subsidies are required by lower income bracket of populations to ensure that all sections get the access to modern energy. Subsidizing the renewable energy sector, as opposed to the coal-based energy or non-renewable energy, might be a solution to look towards. In addition, the growth of renewable energy sector has created an entire portfolio of new jobs. There were discussions about pro-activeness required from economies when it comes to adoption of new technology and renewable energy resources.

There were also discussions on environmental cost of using alternate sources of energy. Anything we do will have some kind of environmental effect and cost. At the end, it is about promoting the policies that have positive effect in long term. The variable costs play an important role as well when it comes to adoption of new sources of energy. For e.g. Solar Power Adoption has been successful because

variable costs have gone lower than coal powered plants. Transition is difficult but it can be achieved by investments in technology. These transitions can be fuelled by Regulatory Intervention where planned adoption of sustainable resource usage can be mandated across the industry. Collaboration with research institutions is also a measure that has worked in US for innovation in the industry with sustainable ways to grow.

Three major challenges were identified at the end of the session:

- **In-depth assessment of the falling costs of renewable energy:** It is widely said that renewable energy prices have been reducing every year. However, we need in-depth research to list the detailed breakup of costs and compare the same with different parts of world so we can understand which the best option is and where we can improve.
- **Capital Costs versus Running Costs:** The Running costs may start to become beneficial in the long term, but capital costs need to be subsidized at some level to promote interest in the technology. Another feasible solution could be the distribution of excess energy generated through renewable sources by feeding it into the grid. This needs decentralization of distribution of energy. There are no funds which are effective in helping achieve this transition to renewable energy resources. Even, the Green Climate fund (GCF) has not been delivered completely.
- **Separation of production efficiency issue with distribution issue:** There are sections of population who don't have access to the renewable energy sources. Sometimes, the subsidies were provided for distribution of energy but not the sources of those energy.

With regard to nuclear energy as an alternate source, the economies of scale work in different direction. Larger number of reactors has made it more expensive and entailed more regulatory barriers. The session ended with final comments from each of panellist. Firstly, there is a lot of work to be done to expand access to modern clean energy. Secondly, countries must look at entire carbon footprint when it comes to measuring risks rather than just emissions. The countries must make their growth strategies a part of environmental concerns through transition. Thirdly, there are various kinds of growing technologies and innovation out there, but we need to be proactive in adoption of these technologies. We need to invest in infrastructure to mitigate the situations rather than reacting to their adverse effects.

Session II**Migration: The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena**

Role	Participants
Keynote Speaker	Paul Power CEO, Refugee Council of Australia
Moderator	Navsharan Singh Senior Programme Specialist, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), New Delhi
Panelist	Dr. Barbara Kolm, Ph.D. Director and Founder, Austrian Economics Center, and President, Friedrich A. v. Hayek Institute, Vienna
	Mr. Oscar Mundia Chief of Mission United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, India and the Maldives
	Dr. Amitabh Kundu Distinguished Fellow Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The session on ***Migration: The Security and Economic Dimension of a Global Phenomena*** started with the Keynote Speech of Mr. Paul Power CEO, Refugee Council of Australia followed by individual remarks from the Panelists and a moderated panel discussion.

As quoted by a migrant economist in Austria in the late 1930s, “When liberalism arose in in the 18th and 19th Century, it led to struggle for the freedom of emigration, today it is the struggle of migration” which holds true even today. So, in order to find appropriate solutions to put an end to this struggle, this session majorly focused on security and economic issues faced by the forced migrants/refugees who fled to other countries due to unstable political and socio-economic conditions in their own countries.

The panel identified the major root causes for the issue and came up with a set of recommendations to be implemented so as to tackle the situation in different parts of the world where the refugee issue is prominent.

Initial Remarks



In his Keynote Speech, **Mr. Paul Power** highlighted four major concerns related to the refugee crisis:

1. The rhetoric we regularly hear about the world facing its greatest displacement crisis ever is both unhelpful and untrue. Even though forced displacement has grown in recent years, less than 0.4 per cent of the world's people are refugees and asylum seekers and less than 1 per cent are forcibly displaced either inside or outside of their countries of origin as compared to 7 or 8 percent of the global population in 1945. The major concern is that the hyped talk of growing displacements makes the issue look too big to deal with and undermine the will to act.
2. Refugees are almost never a security threat to their host societies but, in many contexts, face far greater threats to their security than others. The state policies in demonizing the refugees in many countries have resulted in psychological and physical abuse on the refugees and asylum seekers in several parts of the world. Though majority of the refugee seekers in South East Asia live outside the refugee camps, they are deprived of basic human rights and the risk of arrest and detention is a constant fear amongst them. The violence on Rohingyas from Myanmar and Bangladesh is an example of massive security threat to the refugees themselves.
3. Most refugees in the Asia-Pacific region are failing to find an enduring answer to their need for protection and certainty. UNHCR estimates that out of 4.4 million refugees and asylum seekers in the region from Iran to the South Pacific, only 17,800 were able to return home and fewer than 21,000 got access to permanent protection or a resettlement place in the region. The Asia Pacific Refugee Rights Network and its members have significant concerns about the treatment of refugees from Myanmar and the planned roll-out of the National Register of Citizens (NRC) in India. The deportation of refugees back to the country of their origin poses severe threat to their security. Also, the implementation of exercises like National Register of Citizens in India is being viewed as a discriminatory, divisive, and poorly executed exercise which will result in statelessness, discriminatory or arbitrary deprivation of nationality, mass expulsion, and arbitrary detention.

While the panel acknowledged that NRC is definitely a humanitarian issue which is widely being debated across India, it hasn't yet reached a situation where it can be a part of Global discussion as the government is still working on the various other available options and it might be too early to debate it since the information system mechanisms are not yet defined well.

4. While responding to the needs of refugees, we collectively need to do much more to include people who are and have been refugees in critical discussions about solutions. Such discussions focus majorly on the issues which matter the most to refugees including the formal status, working rights and pain of family separation. Alliances of refugees across national boundaries can ensure that refugees living in difficult and insecure circumstances can have their voices heard in partnership with others who better understand the issues they face. Any serious attempt to resolve refugee situations – including and particularly efforts to encourage safe, voluntary return – must recognise the importance of the voices of those most effected by involving the Global Refugee led network and by developing national refugee networks in different countries.



Adding a European perspective to the discussion, **Dr. Barbara Kolm** analyzed the role of European Union in absorbing the migrants and the issues faced due to mishandling the situation in the various countries. Europe was a major destination for refugees not only from Syria in 2015. Out of more than 375,000 asylum seekers, who came to Europe in 2014 and 2015 only 40,000 had Syrian origin. Many refugees to Europe entered via the Balkans or the Mediterranean. It has to be stated that Europe has a long history of welcoming migrants. E.g.

the refugees due to Balkan wars were easily integrated into European labour markets and societies in the past. However, the recent migration wave caused a major refugee crisis in Europe due to bad policies. Overcrowded camps, with bad living conditions at the Greek borders led to swift political actions. Asylum seekers were not registered and simply waved through borders, until Turkey was used as a proxy. Problems in Europe did not arise with the migrants from Syria but with the large inflow of migrants from Africa, seeking better economic conditions. Unfortunately (war) refugees, immigrants and economic migrants were treated the same way - one size fits all politics once again did not work. Politicians used the refugee situation in Europe for their own benefit, which resulted in rise of extremism on both sides of the spectrum. Fears of terrorism and vigilantism of societies had increased during this crisis. Though migrants and refugees can help improving the economic situation of the host countries, it hasn't been of much help for Europe in recent years due to improper integration of refugees with the inflexibility of most European labor markets and the skill gaps including language barriers and cultural issues. Human trafficking is another issue, which has to be looked upon. The impact of migration in a country depends upon how the issue is administered by the government and it has to be admitted that the EU mishandled the situation in recent years. However, implementing corrective measures like making the labour market open and flexible for the migrants, who integrate, and refraining from pushing the refugees into welfare states, partially bearing the cost of accommodating refugees and responsibility sharing could improve the situation.



Adding to the discussion, **Dr. Amitabh Kundu** pointed out that the strategy of policy intervention at global level seems to be at variance from the ground conditions. It is the global political situation which is largely which is responsible for the refugee population and not just their own state governments. About 80% of the refugees are from south to south. Cost sharing mechanism must evolve at global level and there should be an international mechanism to compensate the countries bearing the large burdens of absorption. Costs and benefits of absorbing the refugees are different in developing and developed countries.

In case of Lebanon, there is a large migrant population from Syria and the percentage of work force to total population went up from 30% to 50% during the last half decade. At the same time, the total unemployment rate increased by 10 percentage which was never seen before in Lebanon. It is also observed that the average wages of refugees are significantly lower than that of the local workforce. Citing the example of the refugee population in Jordan, Colombia etc., he underlined the point that the majority of the refugees live below poverty line. However, in contrast to this, many developed countries like Germany and US, the overall unemployment rate declined even after the absorption of refugee population. Since this is a global issue, it is important to work out a global institutional architecture to tackle the burden of absorption of global migrant and refugee population in an equitable manner.



Mr. Oscar Mundia emphasized on the basic definitions thereby highlighting the differences between migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers and pointed out that it is the security and protection of refugees and asylum seekers who are at risk and that the governments need to make a clear distinction in identifying them. It is becoming increasingly common to see the terms 'refugee' and 'migrant' used interchangeably in media and public discussions, whereas there is a crucial legal difference between the two. Confusing them can lead to

problems for refugees and asylum-seekers, and for states seeking to respond to mixed movements, as well as to misunderstandings in discussions of asylum and migration. Refugees seek international protection because *owing to well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion, is outside the country of his nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail himself of the protection of that country; or who, not having a nationality and being outside the country of his former habitual residence, is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to return to it.* Protection of refugees can be best achieved through an integrated approach. In UNHCR's experience, both security and protection are best achieved through an integrated approach. UNHCR has often seen how prioritizing security over protection rarely yields the desired results. Without safe and regular pathways to safety, people who have nothing left to lose may risk dangerous journeys with smugglers. This creates an environment, in which smuggling, and trafficking can thrive, and a situation which terrorist groups could exploit. Also, branding refugees as security threat opens the door to xenophobic and racist rhetoric as we have seen in Southern Africa. It is evident that states generally acknowledge the positive effects of migration when it happens in a controlled and predictable manner.

Conflation of refugees and migrants often contribute to the widespread belief that substantial numbers of people seek asylum in other countries not because they have a valid claim to refugee status, but because they want to improve their standard of living and wish to circumvent established forms of migration control. Registration and issuance of documents to asylum-seekers and refugees will help states to know the profile of people on their territories and help put security measures in place. Mechanisms like work permits for migrants and refugees has the potential to bring social and economic benefits to the host country. Examples include Jordan in the case of Syrian refugees. Migrants also bring with them skills and innovation which can enrich the host countries. The need for equitable and predictable responsibility sharing arrangements of the refugees resulted in the formation of Global Compact on Refugees by the UN General Assembly in December 2018 whose major objective is to ease the pressure on host communities, to enhance the living standards of the refugees and support the conditions in the countries of their origin and to expand access to basic amenities like health care, food and education.

Security and protection need to go hand in hand and one is not possible without the other. Managing the security aspects of people on the move is unthinkable and untenable without the protection dimension. It is important to find opportunities for collaboration and integrated response which finds solutions for the protection and security of the current displacement and migration situation in the spirit of solidarity and responsibility sharing.

Intra-Panel Discussion and Q&A Session



The Panel Discussion moderated by **Navsharan Singh**, discussed the need for states to recognize the rights of refugees and that they should not be forced to move back to the country of their origin where they are subjected to severe harm. The global community adopted the definition of Refugee based on the well-founded fear of persecution on the grounds of race, religion, nationality of a particular group and political opinion.

The universal declaration of human rights provided that everyone has the right to seek and enjoy in other countries, asylum from persecution. However, the Refugee Rights formulated based on the humanitarian aspect have fallen apart and the governments should make sure that the refugees are given the below rights so as to improve their living standards which the panel referred to as "Humanization of human beings".

1. Access to national courts
2. Right to employment and education
3. Socio-political civil and economic rights as enjoyed by the natives of host country

However, in European context, Incompetence of the politicians of EU in handling the refugee crisis in Europe deprived the refugees of their basic rights in the asylum camps. Nearly 42,700 refugees from Afghanistan who took asylum in EU in 2015 were left with no choice to choose a country except for EU.

No freedom for relocation – major criticism. In recent times, it is observed that nearly 50% of the refugees were not integrated into the EU's labour market because of the lack of flexibility of the prevailing labour laws. It takes a very long time for these refugees (nearly 8 years) to get integrated into European markets.

In addition, politicizing the concept of refugee protection to gain popularity and votes is often observed in several parts of the world which makes the situation worse.

In 2016, the UN General Assembly concluded that the issue of refugee and migrants cannot be dealt in the same manner and so the Global compact for refugee is a watershed for refugee intervention. The UN has gone very far in the aspect of refugee protection but the concept of responsibility sharing and helping the host countries where refugees arrive is neglected. It is important to invest and stabilize the political and economic situation in the origin countries so that the refugees can go back home. To deal with the refugee issue, the host countries should initially recognize the communities where refugees are hosted.

Speaking about the responsibility sharing, it is important to consider the country specific studies as the impact of absorbing the refugees has been different. It is also acknowledged in the discussion that Socio-Cultural aspect is crucial especially in the context of Rohingyas and Afghans which posed a security threat to all the Muslim refugees and migrants. Similar issues were identified in EU as well.

- **Cultural Issues:** Average age of economic migrants in EU from Africa is 24-27 and they tend to live in parallel societies which tend to create a fear and sentiment against economic migrants in Europe. The discussion of one size fits all may not be appropriate for dealing with the refugee situation in all the countries.
- **Cost of welfare:** The average wages of refugees are very much lower than the gross averages of the different countries and so minimum wage policies and the spending on welfare of the refugee has been a pull factor for absorbing refugees in Europe.

Migrants and refugees can always help to improve the economic situation of the host country. As in the case of Australia, the average age of refugees is around 21-22. So, there is a scope for decades of economic benefits by providing reskilling opportunities. The contribution of the refugees to economic situation of Australia has been significant over the years and so the other countries can consider Australian example by supporting the refugees by funding their language training and skills in the initial years so that the benefits can be reaped on a long time.

World Bank, along with many other foundations like CATA Educational Fund, have been investing in the communities that host refugees so that the hosting communities realize the benefits of absorbing the refugees. In addition, the panel discussed on the need to develop market-based solutions and it is the creativity and entrepreneurial actions of the refugees and migrants that need to be supported to reap the economic benefits of migrations and refugee absorption.

Session III**Impact of Trans-National Crime and Rise of the Cyber World on Regional Economies:
Innovative Response Mechanism to Counter Online & Offline Threats**

Role	Participants
Keynote Speaker	Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas Director, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), Italy
Moderator	Syed Munir Khasru Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance (IPAG)
Panelist	Dr. Kyung-Shick Choi Director Cybercrime Investigation & Cybersecurity (CIC,) Boston University
	Alok Bansal Director, Centre for Security & Strategy, India Foundation
	Dr. Priyadarshi Dash Assistant Professor Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Initial Remarks

The session started with the Keynote speech of **Ms. Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas** which focused on cyber-crime as a quintessential trans-national form of crime of our times. Cyber-crimes exploit the interconnected digital world surpassing borders and jurisdictions. Evidence suggests, cyber-crime is on the rise and increased smartphone access and internet have contributed to a significant growth in cyber-crimes in areas where it has been less prevalent. Many countries don't have laws and legislations in place to deal with cyber-crimes.



Dr. Kyung-Shick Choi started his initial remarks on cyber-crimes which could lead to cyber disasters in upcoming years. Using 10-year data set, there was an estimation of more than 600,000 cybercrime related cases within 10 years in US. Today, hacking of a system is not a big deal. Hacking incidences are rising in many parts of the world. The information today is all visible whether we believe it or not. Accessibility has also increased with Internet of Things (IoT). Moreover, there will be 75 billion IoT connected devices available by 2025. On average, each one will be inter-connected with 10 devices. One key challenge that was identified was the dearth of the number of officers available to handle cybercrimes. To mitigate the risks of cybercrime, one basic measure would be to use firewall, anti-virus and anti-spywares. In addition, cyber education is key to combat cybercrimes.



Mr. Alok Bansal continued the discussion continued by focusing on the issue of government backed hackers that create problems to democracy. Between July and September, Google claimed to have sent 12,000 warnings to individuals regarding hacking of their government accounts by government backed agencies. Another issue that was focused during the session was the potential threat to privacy. Cyber-crimes where there is a loss of credentials or confidential information poses a big threat such as during the case of Target Group in US. Though the investments in software like anti-firewall and anti-spyware has been made but the time has come when we need to look into hardware security as well.



Dr. Priyadarshi Das mentioned that financial institutions today are highly dependent on SWIFT when it comes to settlement of international transactions. When we rely so much on a single technology or process, the level of risks go up. When we talk about technological improvements and risks of crimes in Financial World, they have been increasing fast with time.

Intra-Panel Discussion and Q&A Session



The panel discussion moderated by **Syed Munir Khasru**, continued with a focus on Israel's systems which many countries tend to follow when considering cyber security. It is important to follow ethical codes of conduct when it comes to tackling cyber security. For India, there has been a delay in catching up with the Western world with regard to formulation of appropriate laws to fight cyber-crimes. Developing nations in South Asia need to proactively work on measures required to fight cyber-crimes. Most interventions may not show effects overnight but will be highly fruitful in long term. The Reserve Bank of India has been focusing on Anti-Money Laundering norms and know your Customer Operations and have notified banks in case they haven't been following the same. One strategy would be to catch up with technology ladder and investing in IT

related institutions. Over the last few decades, technology has helped with expanding awareness and broadcasting various global movements while also helping UN rectify the same.

There have been lots of opportunities and improvements in the financial industry. Financial Inclusion has been made easy, transaction costs have been lowered, and banking processes have become efficient, which serve as key examples of advancements made in financial industry through improvement in financial technologies (FinTech). There have been unregulated third-party apps which has added convenience but has significantly raised the level of risks. The industry has been hit by multiple cybercrimes in the last few years ranging from payment system hacking, fraudulent transactions on payment system to e-payment validation hacking. Amount of spending on Anti-Money Laundering Compliance has been growing significantly at the same time.

There have been various recommendations both at international and national levels to fight and mitigate cyber risks such as FATF Recommendations and Addis Ababa Action Agenda amongst others. There has also been concerns about Data Localization as well since it requires investments in hardware. The issue is not how to stop the journey but how to make the journey safe. We have to cater to various dimensions of cyber security.

Session IV**Human and Economic Security:
Leveraging SDGs for Economic Development and Social Stability**

Role	Participants
Keynote Speaker	Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi Director General Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
Moderator	Hitomi Kubo Resource Mobilization Officer, Human Security Unit United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security
Panelist	Dr. Joseph Siracusa Professor of Human Security and International Diplomacy School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, RMIT University, Australia
	Dr. P.K. Anand Visiting Fellow Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)
	Mr. Krishna Kumar Visiting Fellow Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The session started with the Keynote Presentation of Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi followed by individual remarks from the Panelists and a moderated panel discussion. The major focus of this session was to address the following three issues for which the panel came up with a variety of suggestions and ideas during the course of discussion.

- Pressing challenges to human economic security today
- How SDGs can be leveraged to counteract these risks and threats

- Types of actions and policy formulations that can be taken to ensure human and economic security for all.

Initial Remarks



Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, in his keynote presentation highlighted the importance of SDGs in

- **Agriculture:** He underlined the importance of proper agricultural practices which, in turn affects the carbon footprint.
- **Health policy:** Health policies have to be accessible to people below poverty line and children below the age 5. The statistics of maternal and child mortality rate are very alarming in many parts of Asia along with Africa. In 2018, an estimated 6.2 million children and teenagers of age less than 15 have died because of curable diseases. This shows the major challenge in front of us in terms of human economic security.

He also emphasized on achieving qualitative results for SDGs unlike the MDGs which are more concerned about quantitative numbers due to the difference in the time periods for achieving these goals. The issue of financial inclusion has also been pointed out where many sections of the society were neglected from access to finance. The idea of development requires an alternative approach for the southern section of the world where the majority are developing economies. It is unfortunate that the emerging economies are not getting adequate space for setting development agenda for the global institutions. The overall success of SDGs depends on the success of the developing parts of the world.

The environment and ecology related institutions should also be given enough space in this development process. Institutions like civil society organizations shouldn't be undermined as they play a major role in articulating the areas where ecological movements have largely been side-lined from the development process. It is about how the resource intensification has happened and the involvement of local ecology because these bodies play a major role in the process of development. Localization of SDGs and bestowing faith in the local organizations can help in faster development of different countries.



Prof. Joseph Siracusa emphasized on the need to reform the concept of human security. The attitude of human and human security has been taken for granted. The concept has evoked much debate on how it should be defined. However, despite this direct attention, it has become rare for the obvious semantic core of the concept to be examined. Human security needs to be understood as a variable condition of the human. With the 1994 report titled "*The Universalization of Life*" is the human life itself. In other words, if human

security has the concept of human embedded at the heart of it, then it allows us to address the question of human condition. Least understood is that human security will no more be an amorphous add-on to harder areas of security such as military or the state security. Neither of them would be reduced to a

few complimentary factors such as food, water, economic and personal securities linked by the notion 'freedom from want'. Human security approaches in the past 10 years have been damned because the concept lacks a precise and generally agreed definition. It has become a contested phrase along with concepts like globalization and human rights. Despite the path breaking work done on the concept, performance of the human security remains imprisoned by existing dominant discourses. Instead of taking the concept of human as related to the human condition and treating the state security as being encompassed by the human security, they tend to treat human security and military security as separate but equal domains. This seems positive in the context of contemporary international relations.

Over the last few decades, the importance of state security or military security have been lifted into the commonsense prominence as important concerns regarding human security has struggled to find even a place. For example, one report on human security now suggests that the human security compliments state security, enhances human rights and strengthens human development i.e., *'the human security and state security are mutually reinforcing and dependent on each other'*. Here, the state security has been pushed to equal levels as that of other much broader considerations like human development and human rights. It is as if state-based security and military has a separate life from the human. Human is subsequently brought back to the complimentary relationship with the human rights categories such as rights development security. It is easy to say why this case is given much emphasis over the past decade to the Homeland security. Human security has come to be defined by all those areas of security that are not directly encompassed by the state or human security. Here, it has to be understood that human security is what is left after the war machine has been given full standing. A major miss in this point is that the human as a category encompasses by definition considerations of the government, state, and the military. So human security should include state military security and the fact that it is not included lead to major implications on how we respond to severe disasters including the climate change which is no less consequential than the military threats. Threat assessment and resourcing in preparation for the disasters as well as responding after the disaster have become equally important as preparing and going for war.



Highlighting the importance of nutrition and skill development, **Mr. PK Anand** said that opportunities matter a lot when we speak about human security. One strand of economics is to help people who are in need but the other important side is to make them capable of earning on their own. We need to transform the goals from entitlement based (while helping the poor) to entrepreneurial based development. Speaking of the SDGs, human values, ethos, and norms are reflected in all of them and it is observed that across the countries, the conditional probability of a country performing well on SDG 2 is very much linked to the performance of all other SDGs. The topmost relation comes with water and sanitation. The non-traditional thinking about the poverty today is that we need to focus on the multidimensional poverty. The definition of poverty given by the UN speaks of nutrition and mortality but the micronutrients and anemia in pregnant women should also be included in the same. Besides the qualitative education, we need to impart the skills related to computer literacy and science should be a part of it. Massive development in India has been observed in terms of rural electrification, sanitation, and drinking water in the recent past. Speaking about the human security,

the choice of indicator for measurement is very critical and we generally consider the Inequality in terms of head count ratio and poverty gap which is a poor indicator. However, there are better indicators like Theil indicator which captures the same information based on different weights assigned to different income groups which will be more helpful.



Mr. Krishna Kumar emphasized the importance of data in human security. Successful implementation of all the SDGs definitely helps a country to move towards Industry 4.0 and data plays a major role here. Data not only helps in measuring the effectiveness of policy implementation but also brings the transparency and accountability of the policies. So, data plays a crucial role in the implementation of SDGs. However, the UNESCAP report released around June 2019 based on 2018 data clearly mentioned that we may not be able to

achieve all the SDGs even by 2030 which is a major concern. Some progress has been made in the implantation of SDG 1, SDG 4 and SDG 7 but is still not sufficient to end the goals like eradicating the poverty by 2030. Today, Asia Pacific region is producing only 83 of the 244 global indicators while data is not available for the others. Availability of qualitative data is crucial in assessing the ground level situation of the issues so that appropriate measures can be taken, and South Asian countries are lagging behind in processing the data and disseminate the results in a useful manner. It is also highlighted that our progress on SDG 17 which is much important in achieving the other SDGs is in fact moving in opposite direction. All the countries should make enough efforts to make an all-round progression by making use of available resources.

Intra-Panel Discussion and Q&A Session



The panel discussion was moderated by **Ms. Hitomi Kubo**. Responding to the query on need for institutional changes that should be put in place to achieve a more localized approach to achieve the SDGs, Mr. Sachin Chaturvedi mentioned that it is important to note that there have been a lot of conflicts going on in different parts of the world and one major reason for the same is the extremely centralized process of common parameter measurement and decision making.

There is much work being put in to bring in the concept of wellness index region wise, which gives a clear localized picture of human welfare. At the global level, the change of centralized institutional process needs a change of psyche and the change in approach of policy formulation.

Similar to the issues faced while implementing the Basel norms globally, too many generalizations lose out on specificity and this is where a change in approach of global institutions needs to be implemented. Speaking about the recommendations on necessary changes to be brought at the global institutional to achieve better human security, it is necessary for the governments to be pushed by their own people to act upon the issues related to the human security. In many of the countries, huge investments are being made on the nuclear, chemical weapons and in defence systems when compared to the other social security activities. Also, including nuclear security in human social security is a mistake. It is in this scenario that the governments need a push from the people to invest in the needs of the hour. In this

regard, institutions, think tanks and other relevant parties can play a major role.

It was also highlighted by the panel that imparting skills in the human capital through various government schemes help in capacity building. In addition, emphasis on government initiatives like digitalization, and more localized data collection approach can help the governments to act on the issues in a more focused manner. This help in putting increased focus on the more neglected areas of the SDGs and for this, regional cooperation is very much necessary for the countries with limited resources to achieve a faster progress.

Valedictory Session



Shri Pradyot Chandra Haldar started his valedictory speech with his observations on the day's sessions. He said that India has faced much trouble since its independence in terms of various areas of conflict. He drew from the experience from his own study on what was happening in West Asia. He said the first nature of violence had been changing, becoming more indiscriminate, especially in Northeast India. India is a diverse country. When the nontraditional security needs were evolving in the 1970s, the academics started talking about

economic security. Gradually economic reform took place. When globalization took place, it was welcomed at one level. But it also led to the emergence of some local concerns such as fear of submergence, which gives rise to the fault lines. These fault lines must be addressed, and that effort had already been made. The suppression of local heterogeneity normally leads to conflict. And that is when the violence comes in. One report of African Rwanda depicted how neighbors became killers. Because differences coming up with globalization creates inequality in the local community and then the rivalry comes. Originally an egalitarian community becomes driven by inequality. That is when conflicting state and murders come.

Later he indicated the importance of culture, in responding to stresses and inequality. He talked about another question that was mentioned in previous sessions about the role of nations to mitigate the emerging threats. If the states support the regime, they play a positive role and can move towards a positive conclusion, and this has happened in some areas. From his own experience with dealing with some of the trouble spots in India, he suggested that having the patience and sitting down with the stakeholders, can reduce the troublesome economic or structural issues. But this doesn't happen

overnight or if the government shows reluctance to dialogues. Governments must engage themselves in dialogue. It takes time but ultimately the economic and structural adjustments are required without compromising the interest of the state.

He also noted that technology is a great enabler, but it enables both sides. It is enabling both the side that wants peace process and development, and also the ones that engender conflict. He suggested that we needed a counter-narrative rather than deradicalization. Jumping to the programmatic option of deradicalization is more difficult. The entire society is vulnerable now as new technologies makes no distinction. Data localization is a demand which is arising from the concern that only a few major MNCs are controlling the equipment market of the internet. He advised that we needed something equivalent to the Geneva convention about the use of the internet space. It does not matter who is misusing - the right of the person wronged or the national entity that had been wronged. We either make partners or make rules under which everybody functions and operates; else we should be ready for disruptive actions. India produces a large number of IT workers but lack enough cyber-security professionals or forensic people. The only way to be protected is to bring people here and make the Indian law applicable. Those who are controlling the internet must realize that this is something that should be done immediately. Otherwise, we are looking into a future that is again going to be fragmented.

He said transnational crime is increasing day by day. One of the major problems of India is drug trafficking, coming from both Afghanistan and Myanmar side. He showed his interest in having a forum like this conference to have a detail discussion on this issue. He mentioned that India is a water-stressed nation. According to the projection, Hindukush and Himalayan glaciers are melting fast, which is a major source of water for the Asian states, including India, Bangladesh, and China. It needs to be successfully dealt with. The population is rising beyond control and water is becoming scarce and polluted. He thinks that is also a consensus that must come to discussion.

He stressed that that such a forum should get civil society to civil society dialogue, rather than just elite discussing among them. This is more important as finally, these group of stakeholders are experiencing what is happening on the ground. He finished his speech thanking IPAG and RIS for arranging such a conference.



Syed Munir Khasru next summarized the proceedings of the conference in a few short points. He thanked Shri Pradyot Chandra Haldar for giving a very overarching view on the issues that had been spoken throughout the day. He suggested bringing out a set of recommendations, some of the key issues discussed, not only for the participants but also the stakeholders such as Government of India, United Nations and other organizations. The main intention of this conference was to activate all the issues at the level they should

be. As we move into uncharted territories, the least we can do is to start planning on what can happen, what kind of response mechanism we currently have, and what we need to do. He thanked the rapporteurs who have done an excellent job in capturing the essence of the four sessions.

He assured that this event is not something people come, speak, and nothing happens. There will be the element of continuity. The whole event was a civil society initiative, and the next level would be to make it a track 1.5 level dialogue, where we will bring government and other stakeholders. He, the summarized the key findings of each of the sessions and ended his remarks thanking the participants, RIS, IPAG team, the volunteers, and everyone else who helped make the event successful.



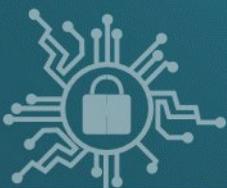
Mr. Mahesh Arora concluded the conference with his vote of thanks. He conveyed gratitude to Shri Pradyot Chandra Haldar, for his valedictory address which was a highly educative experience with practical suggestions. He also conveyed thanks to Prof. S.D. Muni who provided the keynote speech during the Business Session. He conveyed his thanks to Professor Khasru from IPAG and Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi from RIS for their joint leadership to bring the event into reality at a rather short notice. He considered the event to be able to set in

motion a set of ideas and discussions on vital issues in the non-traditional setting. RIS on its own, nontraditional ways has ventured into economic issues, with the security dimension through this meeting. This was the first conference that RIS has done on the nontraditional security topic. The launch of the book in the morning was a bonus for all which is a wonderful compendium, that provides knowledge on security issues in several fields from several experts. It is not only useful for the academics and policy shapers, but also for the student community. The presence of such security and economic experts bringing knowledge, experience and expertise, on the table, is a commendable task, for which he thanked the organizing team. He commented that the connect with the contemporary issues is far more important than getting into theoretical frameworks that matters a lot. He thanked the moderators and panelists of all the sessions and the audience for their interesting questions which made the proceedings lively. He conveyed his gratitude to the foreign guests who made their presence after such a long travel despite the hectic schedule. He also thanked Prof. Khasru and his IPAG colleagues, both onsite and offsite, to organize the conference with speed, vigor, and utmost professionalism. He thanked the volunteers and appreciated the gender balance among the whole team. He also thanked the RIS onsite and offsite team for their support throughout the conference. He also thanked the senior faculty members of RIS who substantively contributed to the outcome of the event. He ended his speech thanking everyone for making the whole event possible.

Conclusion

The experts were unanimous in their assessment that the multifarious forms of security threats to mankind existing today are expanding, and it is important to build a multi-stakeholder system with cross-cutting solutions to effectively tackle these issues. There is a strong consensus in incorporating the agenda and voice of the developing countries into global discussions that affect the developing countries more, such as climate change and the SDGs. Any crafted solutions need to keep focus on the market as well to ensure economic security of the initiatives. All in all, better coordination among global policymakers and greater collaboration with all stakeholders is towards tackling this multi—varied forms of threats that blight the world today.

Given the positive outcome of this RIS-IPAG international conference on non-traditional economic and security threats, and the strong endorsement for continuity in areas that are consistently changing and evolving, RIS and IPAG are committed to continue to work together in building on the momentum generated through this event. On that note, the RIS-IPAG consortium aspires to reach out to all the stakeholders including the policymakers, experts, sponsors, civil society, academicians and media to build on the outcomes of the 2019 conference and organize it again, with a greater setting, broader scope, and at a larger scale.



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