



70th Anniversary of Russia–India
diplomatic relations

Strategic Visions of
Russia – India

Relations and Changes in the World Order

October 12–13, 2017

International Conference



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Strategic Visions of Russia – India Relations and Changes in the World Order

70th Anniversary of Russia – India diplomatic relations
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In 2017 Russia and India celebrate the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. Over the decades of close and mutually beneficial cooperation the sides have reached the level of the special and privileged strategic partnership that meets the interests of both countries and shall not be affected by external factors. Mutual trust at political level and active dialogue between Russian and Indian societies helped implement large-scale projects in energy, in production cooperation, military and technical collaboration, as well as in science, education, culture and media.

At the same time, emerging global challenges and the need for new growth points set new ambitious aims for Russia – India closer coordination in the international arena and positive dynamics in the bilateral ties.

In a changing world Russia and India's common positions on the key issues of global and regional agenda are becoming particularly important, as are similar views on the outlines of the new world order based on multipolarity, equality, firm commitment to the fundamental principles of international law, and the central role of the United Nations. The common efforts of both countries contribute to the more active role of BRICS in world affairs.

The necessity to counter new and traditional security threats, including in South and Central Asian regions, comes to the fore. Cooperation between Russia and India in resolution of numerous tensions might become a key factor in regional stability. Collaboration of the two states in the framework of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization that India joined in 2017 shall also contribute to the world's peaceful development and prosperity.

Russia and India are interested in bringing the bilateral cooperation to a new level and to shift to the model of economic and trade relations based on increasing mutual investment and the share of settlements in national currencies, on close cooperation of business communities, and development of joint high-tech projects. Collaboration between Russia and India is getting new momentum in the context of multilateral infrastructure initiatives in Eurasia.

However, strengthening the bilateral ties and coordination on complex global and regional agenda issues requires enhancing mutual trust and advancing contacts between the peoples of Russia and India.

On October 12-13, 2017, Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) in partnership with Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) will host an international conference titled “Strategic Visions of Russia-India Relations and Changes in the World Order” to discuss these and other important issues. The aim of the conference is to put forward practical recommendations on improving Russia-India cooperation mechanisms in both bilateral and multilateral formats taking into account long-term trends of global development. Leading experts on international affairs, as well as representatives of state authorities and businesses of Russia and India will take part in the discussion.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

**Strategic Visions of Russia – India Relations
and Changes in the World Order**

70th Anniversary of Russia – India diplomatic relations
October 12-13, 2017

Date: October 12, 2017

Venue: Alexander House Business Center, Moscow, Bolshaya Yakimanka St., 1

Working Languages: Russian, English (*simultaneous translation*)

09:00-10:00 Registration

10:00-10:45 Opening High Level Session

[Open for media](#)

Igor IVANOV, President of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC), Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia (1998–2004), Corresponding Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences

Igor MORGULOV, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Member of RIAC

Pankaj SARAN, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of India to Russia

Nalin SURIE, Director General of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)

10:45-12:45 Session “Russia and India on Changing Geopolitical Landscape: Common Interests, Threats, and Long-Term Trends”

The session is held under the Chatham House Rule

[Open for media](#)

- *Global governance and management of world order in the long run*
- *Traditional and emerging security threats (terrorism, extremism, cybercrime): Ways of combatting them and prospects for Russia – India collaboration*
- *Challenges to strategic stability*

Moderator:

Andrey KORTUNOV, Director General, Member of Presidium of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC)

Speakers:

Leonid SLUTSKY, Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs of

the State Duma of Russia

Vyacheslav TRUBNIKOV, Member of the Board of Director of Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations of RAS, General of the Army, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia, Advisor to President of Irkut Corporation, Vice President of RIAC

P.S. RAGHAVAN, Former Ambassador of India, Convenor of the National Security Advisory Board (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Fedor LUKYANOV, Editor-in-Chief of *Russia in Global Affairs*, Chairman of the Presidium of the Council for Foreign and Defense Policy, Member of RIAC

Harinder SEKHON, Senior Fellow at Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Sergey LUNEV, Professor at the Department of Oriental Studies of MGIMO-University, Professor at the School of International Affairs of the Higher School of Economics, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of *Comparative Politics*

12:45-13:00

Presentation of RIAC – VIF Report “70th Anniversary of Russia-India Relations: New Horizons of Privileged Partnership”

[Open for media](#)

Andrey KORTUNOV, Director General, Member of Presidium of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC)

Harinder SEKHON, Senior Fellow at Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-16:00

Session “Russian and Indian Policies in the East: Strategic Interests and Common Challenges”

The session is held under the Chatham House Rule

[Closed to media](#)

- *Russia and India’s visions for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)*
- *Eurasian security outside the SCO framework: West Asia and Central Asia as areas of mutual concern for Russia and India*
- *Situation on the Korean Peninsula: How can Russia and India contribute to the settlement?*
- *Integration processes and multilateral projects in Eurasia*
- *Russia – China collaboration and its implications for Russia – India ties*
- *Potential of boosting Russia – India – Iran cooperation. Caspian Sea: strategic space and politics*

Moderator:

Andrey VOLODIN, Senior Research Fellow at Primakov Institute of World

Economy and International Relations of RAS

Speakers:

Bakhtier KHAKIMOV, Special Presidential Envoy of Russia to the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Denis ALIPOV, Deputy Director of the Second Asian Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia

Arun SAHGAL, Brigadier (Retd.), Senior Fellow of Delhi Policy Group (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Sergey LUZYANIN, Director of the Institute of Far Eastern Studies of RAS, Member of RIAC

Gleb IVASHENTSOV, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia, Member of RIAC

P. STOB DAN, Former Ambassador of India (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Irina FEDOROVA, Senior Research Fellow of the Institute of Oriental Studies of RAS

Athar ZAFAR, Research Fellow of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

16:00-16:30

Coffee Break

16:30-18:30

Session “Russian and Indian Policies in the West”

The session is held under the Chatham House Rule

Closed to media

- *Russia – India collaboration against the background of the Trump administration’s foreign policy*
- *Changing dynamics of Russia – EU and India – EU relations*
- *Sanctions against Russia and their impact on Russia – India relations*
- *Russia – NATO relationship. India’s perception in NATO*
- *The Arctic region as a prospective area for Russia – India cooperation*

Moderator:

Ivan TIMOFEEV, Director of Programs, Member of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC)

Speakers:

Alexey PUSHKOV, Member of the Council of the Federation Committee on Defense and Security, Member of RIAC

Fedor VOYTOLOVSKY, Director of Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations of RAS, Corresponding Member of RAS

Nandan UNNIKRISHNAN, Vice President and Senior Fellow at Observer Research Foundation (ORF) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Valery GARBUZOV, Director of the Institute for U.S. and Canadian Studies of RAS

Stuti BANERJEE, Research Fellow of the Indian Council of World Affairs

(ICWA) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Dmitry SUSLOV, Deputy Director of the Centre for Comprehensive European and International Studies (CCEIS) at the Faculty of World Economy and International Affairs of the Higher School of Economics

D. Suba Chandran, Professor, Dean of the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

18:30-19:00

Buffet Dinner



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Working Languages: Russian, English (*simultaneous translation*)

09:00-10:00 Registration

**10:00-12:00 Session “Meeting Global Economic Challenges and Russia-India
Bilateral Agenda”**

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Open for media

- *Boosting trade and investment in the context of national priorities: Flagship projects, new areas and innovative approaches. Prospects for joint projects in third countries*
- *Russia and India’s strategies of technological modernization. New technologies, robotics, and the Internet as emerging drivers of collaboration*
- *Economic value of deepening military-technical collaboration*
- *Fostering cooperation in transport and infrastructure: Prospects of multilateral projects, including the International North–South Transport Corridor*
- *India and the Eurasian Economic Union: Possible formats of interaction*
- *BRICS’s agenda and global economic trends*
- *Effect of the sanctions on the international trade*

Moderator:

Evgeny NADORSHIN, Chief Economist at PF Capital

Speakers:

Vyacheslav TRUBNIKOV, Member of the Board of Director of Primakov Institute of World Economy and International Relations of RAS, General of the Army, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Russia, Advisor to President of Irkut Corporation, Vice President of RIAC

Andrey KLEPACH, Deputy Chairman (Chief Economist) – Member of the Board of Vnesheconombank, Member of RIAC

Manjeet KRIPALANI, Executive Director of Gateway House (*Official*)

Indian Delegation)

Talyat ALIEV, Deputy Director at the Department of International Cooperation at the Ministry of Energy of Russia

Igor PLETNEV, Deputy Head of the First Department on Military-Technical Cooperation with Foreign States of the Federal Service for Military-Technical Cooperation

Sunder Lal BHATTI, President of Commercial Indo Bank LLC (*Indian Community in Moscow*)

Stanislav GEORGIEVSKY, Deputy Director of the Department for Trade Policy of Eurasian Economic Commission

Sabyasachi SAHA, Assistant Professor at Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Manoj KOTWANI, President of the Indian Business Alliance (IBA) (*Indian Community in Moscow*)

12:00-12:15

Presentation of RIAC – Gateway House Policy Brief “Russia – India Energy Cooperation: Trade, Joint Projects, and New Areas”

[Open for media](#)

Vasily SHIKIN, Expert of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) (*Author of the Policy Brief from the Russian Side*)

Amit BHANDARI, Fellow for Energy and Environment of Gateway House (*Author of the Policy Brief from the Indian Side*)

12:15-12:45

Coffee Break

12:45-14:45

Session “Role of Education, Culture, and Media Collaboration in Russia – India Partnership”

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[Open for media](#)

- *Promoting mutual understanding and people-to-people contacts: What should be done?*
- *Russia – India joint educational projects and academic mobility: Moving from language studies to non-language disciplines*
- *Cultural ties as drivers of bilateral collaboration: Promoting private initiatives and enhancing state support*
- *Russia’s image in India and India’s image in Russia: Role of media in forming positive agenda*

Moderator:

Timur MAKHMUTOV, Deputy Director of Programs at the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC)

Speakers:

Oleg SAFONOV, Head of Federal Agency for Tourism of Russia

Anup K. MUDGAL, Former Ambassador of India (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Mikhail SHVYDKOY, Special Presidential Envoy of Russia for International Cultural Cooperation, Ambassador-at-Large, Member of RIAC

Bharat BHUSHAN, Senior Journalist (*Official Indian Delegation*)

Alexander STOLYAROV, Director of the International Centre for South Asian Studies at the Russian State University for the Humanities

Sanjeet Kumar JHA, President of the Association of Indians in Russia (*Indian Community in Moscow*)

14:45-15:00

Closing Remarks