



VIJ GISHU

— 2026 —



AMITY INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

Amity University, Uttar Pradesh

in collaboration with

Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)

MGIMO University (Russia)

Knowledge Partners

Red Lantern Analytica

South Asian University,

University of Delhi,

Observer Research Foundation,

IGNOU, School of Social Sciences

University of Mumbai,

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

Centre for Global Affairs & Leadership Studies

organises

7th Edition of



A Three-Day International Conference

on

**Southeast Asia and the Global South:
Evolving Security, Sustainability,
and Strategic Dynamics in a
Multipolar World**

*16th, 17th and 18th
September 2026*

Our Collaborators



Our Knowledge Partners



**Center for Global Affairs
& Leadership Studies**

Registered as Micro Enterprise with MSME, Government of India



RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

CONCEPT NOTE

*The contemporary international system is witnessing a significant transformation marked by the gradual shift from a unipolar to a **multipolar world order**. In this evolving landscape, **Southeast Asia and the Global South** have emerged as pivotal regions influencing global political, economic, and strategic trajectories. Once perceived as peripheral actors, these regions are now central to discussions on global governance, sustainability, and security.*

Southeast Asia occupies a uniquely strategic position at the intersection of major maritime trade routes and geopolitical contestations. The region has increasingly become a focal point of great power engagement, particularly in the context of the Indo-Pacific, where competing visions of order coexist alongside regional aspirations for stability, autonomy, and development. At the same time, the broader Global South is asserting itself through collective platforms and South–South cooperation mechanisms, seeking to redefine global hierarchies and advocate for more equitable and inclusive governance structures.



Historically, global power dynamics were largely concentrated in the Atlantic region, dominated by Western economies and institutions. However, the rise of emerging economies across Asia, Africa, and Latin America has contributed to a redistribution of power, thereby reshaping global interactions. This transformation is accompanied by increasing interdependence in trade, investment, and technological exchange, as well as intensifying strategic competition.

*Beyond traditional geopolitical considerations, the discourse on security has expanded to include **non-traditional dimensions** such as climate change, environmental sustainability, food and water security, energy transitions, and digital governance. These issues are particularly significant for Southeast Asia and the Global South, where vulnerabilities are often more pronounced and require coordinated, multilateral responses.*

Cultural exchanges and people-to-people linkages further reinforce these evolving dynamics. Migration, diaspora networks, and transnational cultural flows contribute to shaping identities, perceptions, and diplomatic engagements across regions. In this context, understanding the intersection of security, sustainability, and strategic dynamics necessitates a multidimensional and interdisciplinary approach.



The conference aims to critically examine these emerging trends by bringing together scholars, policymakers, diplomats, industry experts, and students to engage in meaningful dialogue. It seeks to provide a platform for analysing the challenges and opportunities that define Southeast Asia and the Global South in a rapidly changing international order, while also fostering collaborative approaches to address shared concerns.

*A significant highlight of this edition is the collaboration with **MGIMO University** as a **Knowledge Partner**, thereby enriching the discourse with a broader Eurasian perspective and strengthening international academic engagement.*



OVERVIEW OF THE INSTITUTIONS



AMITY UNIVERSITY

Amity Institute of International Studies (AIIS)

at Amity University Uttar Pradesh is the fastest-growing institution offering specialized programs in International Relations. These programs provide students with extensive opportunities to explore the field and prepare for careers in Civil Services, international organizations, media, multinational corporations (MNCs), and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). AIIS is well-connected with renowned organizations globally, leveraging a network of key officials and academicians to design a relevant and current curriculum. The institute draws on the expertise within Amity University, Noida, to deliver high-quality education. Programs at AIIS are supported by advanced pedagogical methods, including workshops, webinars, conferences, and interactions with experts. This ensures students gain practical insights and exposure to International Relations. The institute is led by a reputed Director and supported by Senior Professors, Assistant Professors, Distinguished Visiting Professors, Professors of Eminence, and administrative staff. AIIS provides a supportive environment with counselling, mentorship, and open access to higher authorities for addressing academic and non-academic issues, ensuring a comprehensive and enjoyable learning experience.



Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)

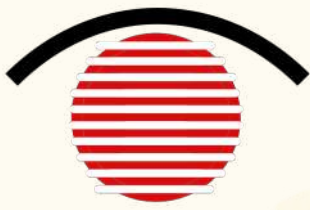
The Indian Council of World Affairs was established in 1943 by a group of Indian intellectuals as a think tank. It was registered as a non-official, non-political and non-profit organisation under the Registration of Societies Act 1860. By an Act of Parliament in 2001, the Indian Council of World Affairs has been declared an institution of national importance. The Vice President of India is the ex-officio President of ICWA. It is devoted exclusively for the study of international relations and foreign affairs. Historic international conferences like 'Asian Relations Conference' in 1947 under the leadership of freedom fighter Sarojini Naidu and 'United Nations and the New World Order' in 1994 have been held by this think tank in which world renowned dignitaries addressed huge gatherings of intellectuals. Scores of conferences, meetings and panel discussions have been organised by the Council in its elegant building called "Sapru House".



MGIMO

University (Russia)

The Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO) was founded on 14 October 1944 by a Soviet Government decree, emerging from the School of International Relations at Moscow State University. Over the following decades, it expanded its academic scope to include International Law, International Economic Relations, Oriental Studies, Foreign Trade, Journalism, Political Science, and Public Administration. From the 1980s onward, MGIMO became increasingly international, welcoming students from Western countries and developing partnerships with universities worldwide. During the 2000s and 2010s, it further expanded into fields such as European studies, energy policy, economics, diplomacy, and global governance. Today, MGIMO is one of Russia's leading institutions for the study of international relations, diplomacy, economics, law, and political science.



Red Lantern Analytica (RLA)

Red Lantern Analytica is a New Delhi-based international affairs observer group focusing on strategic affairs, global geopolitics, and emerging security challenges. Committed to promoting transparency, accountability, and democratic values, RLA drives critical discussions on international relations and advocates for a fair, rules-based global order.



South Asian University

The South Asian University (SAU) was proposed by the Prime Minister of India at the 13th SAARC Summit in Dhaka in 2005 as a regional centre of excellence bringing together students and scholars from across South Asia. Following consultations among SAARC members, an agreement to establish the university was signed in 2007 at the 14th SAARC Summit in New Delhi. The university began admitting students in August 2010, initially operating from temporary facilities before moving to Akbar Bhawan in Chanakyaपुरi and eventually to its permanent residential campus in Maidan Garhi in January 2023. SAU focuses primarily on postgraduate education and research, with students and faculty drawn predominantly from SAARC countries. Its establishment and operational costs are supported by India and other SAARC member states, reflecting its role as a regional institution for higher education and South Asian studies.



The University of Delhi (DU)

is a premier university of the country with a venerable legacy and international acclaim for highest academic standards, diverse educational programmes, distinguished faculty, illustrious alumni, varied co-curricular activities and modern infrastructure. Over the many years of its existence, the University has sustained the highest global standards and best practices in higher education. The President of India is the Visitor, the Vice-President is the Chancellor, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of India is the Pro-Chancellor of the University.



Observer Research Foundation

The Observer Research Foundation (ORF) was established in 1990 during India's transition towards economic reforms, bringing together leading economists and policymakers to examine emerging challenges and contribute to policy development. Over the years, ORF evolved from focusing primarily on domestic reforms to engaging with global issues and partnerships. Today, it is an independent, non-partisan think tank that conducts research and facilitates dialogue on international relations, security, economy, energy, technology, and global governance. ORF aims to contribute Indian perspectives to global debates, promote diverse voices, and provide research and policy inputs to governments, academia, businesses, and civil society.



The Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU)

established by an Act of Parliament in 1985, has continuously striven to build an inclusive knowledge society through inclusive education. It has tried to increase the Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER) by offering high-quality teaching through the Open and Distance Learning (ODL) mode. Today, it serves the educational aspirations of over 3 million students in India and other countries through 21 Schools of Studies and a network of 67 Regional Centres, around 2,000 Learner Support Centres and 20 overseas institutions. The University offers about 200 certificate, diploma, degree and doctoral programmes, with a strength of nearly 250 faculty members and 230 academic staff at the headquarters and regional centres and over 35,000 academic counsellors from conventional institutions of learning, professional organisations, and industry among others.



University of Mumbai

The University of Mumbai, established in 1857, is one of India's oldest and most prestigious public universities. Located in Mumbai, it offers a wide range of undergraduate, postgraduate, doctoral, and professional programmes across diverse disciplines. With a strong emphasis on education, research, innovation, and academic excellence, the University has played a significant role in shaping India's intellectual and professional landscape. Over the years, it has built a broad network of affiliated colleges, research centres, scholars, and alumni, contributing significantly to higher education in India and beyond.



RIS

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) was established in May 1983 in New Delhi as a policy research institution focused on international economic issues and the interests of developing countries. It serves as a think tank of the Global South, promoting South-South cooperation, economic development, and collective self-reliance, while providing policy inputs to the Government of India. RIS conducts research on global economic governance, trade and investment, regional connectivity, new technologies, and development issues, and maintains partnerships with international organisations, governments, think tanks, and academic institutions across the developing world.



Centre for Global Affairs & Leadership Studies

Center for Global Affairs & Leadership Studies (CGALS) is a forward-thinking, non-partisan think tank. We exist to bridge the gap between innovation, diplomacy, and policy in an increasingly complex global landscape. Amidst accelerating technological change, environmental pressures, and shifting geopolitical power dynamics, CGALS provides a platform for interdisciplinary research, inclusive dialogue, and strategic insights, helping leaders, scholars, and institutions reimagine the future of global affairs. We are proudly registered as a Micro Enterprise under the MSME Act, Government of India, reinforcing our commitment to inclusive, sustainable innovation and policy leadership.

SUB THEMES

I. Strategic and Geopolitical Dynamics

- 1. The Global South in a Multipolar World: Power Redistribution and Emerging Hierarchies (Plenary Session I)*
- 2. Indo-Pacific Strategic Frameworks: FOIP, Quad, BIMSTEC, IORA, and IPOI in Shaping Regional Order (Plenary Session II)*
- 3. ASEAN Centrality and Regional Institutional Architecture*
- 4. Strategic Autonomy in the Global South: Policy Choices, Alignment Strategies, and Partnership Models*
- 5. China's Expanding Footprint in Southeast Asia and Regional Responses*
- 6. India's Indo-Pacific Vision and Engagement with Southeast Asia (Act East Policy)*

II. Security and Sustainability

- 1. Sustainability and Human Security in the Global South: Climate, Energy, and Development Futures (Plenary Session III)*
- 2. Maritime Security, Sea Lanes, and the Blue Economy in the Indo-Pacific*
- 3. Non-Traditional Security in the Global South: Health, Migration, and Transnational Risks*
- 4. Climate Change and Environmental Governance in the Global South*

III. Economic, Technological, and Societal Transformations

- 1. Energy Security and Green Transitions in Emerging Economies in Southeast Asia*
- 2. Connectivity, Infrastructure Diplomacy, and Supply Chain Resilience*
- 3. Trade, Investment Flows, and Regional Economic Integration in Southeast Asia and the Global South*
- 4. Digital Geopolitics, Cyber Security, and Emerging Technologies in the Indo-Pacific*
- 5. Public Diplomacy, Soft Power, and Cultural Connectivity in the Global South*



OBJECTIVES

- *To examine the evolving strategic dynamics of Southeast Asia within the broader context of the Global South.*
- *To analyse the role of emerging economies in shaping a multipolar global order.*
- *To explore traditional and non-traditional security challenges, including maritime security, cyber threats, and climate risks.*
- *To analyse sustainability concerns, including climate governance, energy transitions, and environmental resilience.*
- *To understand the impact of major power competition on regional stability and cooperation.*
- *To highlight the importance of South–South cooperation in fostering inclusive development.*

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITIES

- *All the submitted/accepted Abstracts will be published in the Conference Proceedings with a P-ISBN number, E-ISBN number and a DOI number, to be published by Journal Press India.*
- *The selected quality papers will be published in an Edited Book with an ISBN and DOI number, to be published by Journal Press India.*
- *The selected quality papers will be recommended for the Journal "FOCUS: Journal of International Business", subject to Journal policy, Review process and Acceptance by the respective journal/discretion of the Editor. The cost of publication if any, to be borne by author, as per the Journal policy.*

PUBLICATION PARTNER





Target Audience

- *Academicians and researchers specialising in International Relations, Southeast Asian studies, and Global South dynamics.*
- *International and regional organisations working on development, sustainability, and governance.*
- *Policymakers, government officials, and diplomats engaged in Indo-Pacific and Global South affairs.*
- *Industry experts in energy, sustainability, logistics, and digital governance sectors.*
- *Students and research scholars interested in contemporary global issues.*

Expected Outcomes

- *Developing a comprehensive understanding of the strategic, economic, and sustainability dimensions of Southeast Asia and the Global South.*
- *Generating policy-relevant insights for governments, institutions, and industry stakeholders.*
- *Identification of emerging areas for research and academic collaboration.*
- *Strengthening dialogue on global governance, security cooperation, and sustainable development.*
- *Enhancing institutional partnerships and international academic engagement.*

Tentative Resource Persons

- *Senior Faculty and Experts from MGIMO University*
- *Representatives from ASEAN Secretariat*
- *Officials from Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India*
- *Scholars from leading universities in Southeast Asia and India*
- *Experts from think tanks such as Observer Research Foundation and ICWA*

CONFERENCE CHAIR AND CONVENER

Prof. (Dr.) Nagalaxmi M Raman

*Director and Head,
Amity Institute of International Studies*

CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS (FACULTY)

- Dr. Shreesh Kumar Pathak, Assistant Professor-III, AIIS
- Dr. Aleena Thomas, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Shubham Verma, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Aashriti Gautam, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Ashok Sadasivan, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Akriti Khajuria, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Malswamtluangi, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS
- Dr. Devina Singh, Assistant Professor – I, AIIS

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