



FOUNDATIONS OF THE EUROPE-INDIA STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP



Call for Papers

In the Light of the EU's Global Strategy: India and the European Union - Joining Forces on the Global Scene?

Foundations, Perspectives, and Global Aspirations in the Relations between India and the European Union

November 20-22, 2019

Akademie Frankenwarte, Würzburg

Is the "Trump factor" and the U.S. president's unilateral and nationalist foreign policy a driving force for India and the European Union to enhance their cooperation with the goal to maintain a multilateral world order? Which policy fields can be identified where both sides could contribute to strengthening and improving this world order? These questions are becoming increasingly relevant.

In 2017, India and the European Union celebrated 55 years of diplomatic relations. After a period of rather loose diplomatic, economic, and development cooperation, the relationship was upgraded to a new level by concluding a Strategic Partnership in 2004. An institutionalized bilateral relationship between the two largest democracies of the world was set into motion. Openly declared objectives of the Strategic Partnership between India and the EU were to promote the rules-based global order and trading system, to improve multilateral organizations like the United Nations, the WTO and G20, and to work together for a more inclusive world order in general. Both partners, however, have constantly been criticized for their reluctance to move forward, which was characterized as a charade of a "Strategic Partnership". Moreover, in the following years of crisis, the EU instrument of Strategic Partnerships has become more and more neglected with a clearly negative impact on EU-India relations. Furthermore, a free trade agreement between India and the EU, launched in 2007, has officially been suspended since 2013.

The EU's Global Strategy of 2016, however, offers the opportunity for a restart of European Foreign Policy and its almost forgotten tool of Strategic Partnerships. Besides envisaging new treaties and partnerships, the strategy focuses on recalibrating the existing ones, especially in the field of security cooperation.

On the Indian side, too, changing stances opened up new opportunities. Thus, at the 2018 World Economic Forum in Davos, Indian Prime Minister Modi criticized protectionism and implicitly blamed the U.S.A. for its new trade tariff policy. A few months later, Modi and German Chancellor Merkel agreed to resume negotiations on the free trade agreement

The workshop will ask if these factors and events could trigger an invigoration of the relationship between India and the EU and motivate them to reach for a bigger common role on the global stage. Potentials for such efforts do exist.

The leading questions are inter alia: How can the current status of the EU-Indian-relationship be evaluated? What are the global aspirations of both partners? Are India as an emerging power and the European Union joining forces on the global scene? And in which policy fields?

Our workshop invites contributions from scholars of various disciplines and is not limited to specific theories or methodological approaches. The workshop will address four broader sets of topics:

1) The Foundations of the EU-India Strategic Partnership: What are the normative foundations of the Strategic Partnership? Where do the main deadlocks occur? How does the EU perceive India and vice versa? Which general problems does this partnership face?

2) The EU Global Strategy 2016 as a relaunch of EU Foreign Policy: Is the EU Global Strategy able to reactivate EU Foreign Policy after the EU-internal polycrises? Which role does the EU Global Strategy play regarding a renewed approach to the concept of Strategic Partnerships of the European Union? What does this mean for the existing EU-India Strategic Partnership? Which role can the EU Global Strategy play in reinvigorating an EU-Indian cooperation?

3) The EU and India as like-minded, yet different international actors: At their summits the EU and India are articulating global aspirations to solve global problems together. Can there be a sustainable, common global role of the two players? Does the Strategic Partnership provide a firm building block in the global governance structure?

4) Going beyond the "Strategic Partnership": Which new policy fields can be identified with potentials for further cooperation? Are there perspectives for an enhanced, innovative institutional framework? Which new concepts does the EU Global Strategy provide for enhanced cooperation with emerging powers such as India?

We welcome paper submissions which fit in the workshop theme and our broad topics. We invite potential contributors to submit an abstract via timo.lowinger@uni-wuerzburg.de (no more than 300 words). Please include the title of the paper, your full name and contact address including e-mail as well as your current position and institutional affiliation, a brief CV, and list of publications. The submission deadline is 12.04.2019. Paper-givers will be notified by 14.05.2019 if their submissions have been accepted. The goal is to publish a collection of papers in an edited volume.



The IGP cooperation is financially supported by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) with funds from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

The Jean Monnet Chair is co-funded by the Erasmus+ program of the European Union.



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



GEFÖRDERT VOM

Bundesministerium
für Bildung
und Forschung

