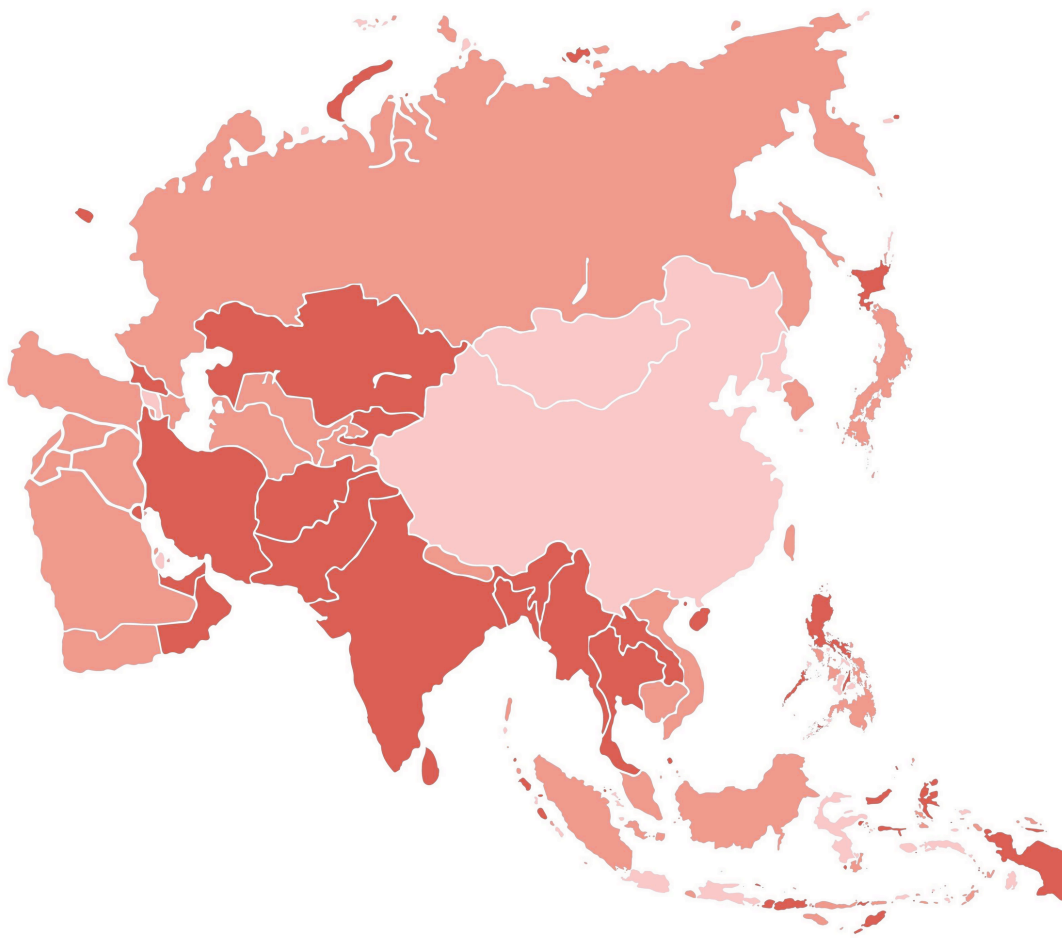


Trump 2.0: US Policy Towards Asia

Online Conference
6th & 7th November 2025



The FCDO Association



Session 1 – Thursday 6th November

India and South Asia: Regional Stability and Development

Moderator: Dr Kamran Bokhari – Adjunct Assistant Professor, Georgetown University

Panel:

- Michael Kugelman – Senior Fellow, Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada
 - Dr Rudra Chaudhuri – Director, Carnegie India
 - Dr Jivanta Schottli – Director, Ireland India Institute
-

China: Geopolitics, Economics and the Global Order

Moderator: Professor Kerry Brown – Director, Lau China Institute, Kings College London

Panel:

- Professor Steve Tsang – Director, SOAS China Institute
 - Dr James Char – Assistant Professor, S Rajaratnam School of International Studies
 - Dr Yun Sun – Senior Fellow & Director, China Programme, Stimson Centre
-

Central Asia: Influence, Autocracy and Balancing Russia

Moderator: Sophie Ibbotson – Chairman, RSAA & Development Consultant, World Bank

Panel:

- Annette Bohr – Associate Fellow, Russia and Eurasia Programme, Chatham House
- Temur Umarov – Fellow, Carnegie Russia Eurasia Centre
- Professor Luca Anceschi – University of Glasgow



Session 1 – Thursday 6th November 13:15-14:15 GMT India and South Asia: Regional Stability and Development



Dr Kamran Bokhari is a Senior Director at the New Lines Institute for Strategy & Policy in Washington DC and teaches a graduate course on Central Asia and Eurasian Geopolitics at Georgetown University. Bokhari also serves as national security and foreign policy specialist at the University of Ottawa's Professional Development Institute. He is the author of "Political Islam in the Age of Democratization" (Palgrave Macmillan, 2013).



Michael Kugelman is an expert on and long time analyst of South Asia having, until recently, directed the Wilson Center's South Asia Institute. He is a Senior Fellow at the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada and a columnist for Foreign Policy magazine where he writes its South Asia Brief, a weekly newsletter of news and analysis from the region. Kugelman specialises in Pakistan, India and Afghanistan and US relations with each of them.



Dr Rudra Chaudhuri is the director of Carnegie India. His research focuses on the diplomatic history of South Asia, contemporary security issues, and the important role of emerging technologies and digital public infrastructure in diplomacy, statecraft, and development. He and his team at Carnegie India convene and chair the Global Technology Summit, co-hosted with the Ministry of External Affairs of the Government of India.



Dr Jivanta Schottli is Assistant Professor in Indian Politics and Foreign Policy at the School of Law and Government, Dublin City University and Director of the Ireland India Institute. Her research interests include Indian foreign policy with a focus on the intersection between domestic politics and international relations, diplomacy and maritime governance in the Indian Ocean, the emerging strategic discourse about the Indo-Pacific and the role of China in South Asia.



Session 1 – Thursday 6th November 14:30-15:30 GMT China: Geopolitics, Economics and the Global Order



Dr Kerry Brown is Professor of Chinese Studies and Director of the Lau China Institute at King's College, London. He is an Associate of the Asia Pacific Programme at Chatham House and an adjunct of the Australia New Zealand School of Government in Melbourne. He is also the co-editor of the Journal of Current Chinese Affairs, run from the German Institute for Global Affairs in Hamburg. From 1998 to 2005 he was First Secretary at the British Embassy in Beijing.



Professor Steve Tsang is the Director of the SOAS China Institute. Before taking on this position in 2016, he was the Head of the School of Contemporary Chinese Studies at the University of Nottingham. He is a frequent commentator for the BBC and has testified at various select committees of the House of Commons, the House of Lords, and the Canadian House of Commons. His most recent book is *The Political Thought of Xi Jinping* (Blackstone, 2024).



Dr James Char is Assistant Professor with the China Programme and Deputy Coordinator of MSc (Asian Studies) at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He has published extensively on China's civil-military relations and its military developments. More specifically, his research centres on the nexus between the Chinese Communist Party and the People's Liberation Army.



Dr Yun Sun is a Senior Fellow, Co-Director of the East Asia Program and Director of the China Program at the Stimson Center. Her expertise is in Chinese foreign policy, US-China relations, and China's relations with neighbouring countries and authoritarian regimes. From 2008 to 2011, Sun was the China Analyst for the International Crisis Group based in Beijing, specialising in China's foreign policy towards conflict countries and the developing world.



Session 1 – Thursday 6th November 15:45-16:45 GMT Central Asia: Influence, Autocracy and Balancing Russia



Sophie Ibbotson is Chairman of the RSAA and a consultant specialising in sustainable tourism development in South and Central Asia, through her consultancy Maximum Exposure Ltd. The co-author of six Bradt travel guides, Ibbotson has written for a number of publications and has been the recipient of the Turizm Fidoyisi medal of honour from the Government of Uzbekistan for her work as Uzbekistan's Tourism Ambassador to the UK.



Annette Bohr is an Associate Fellow at Chatham House. She has more than three decades of professional experience as an analyst of Eurasian politics and energy. Her research addresses the politics and international relations of the post-Soviet Central Asian states as well as Russia's relations with China, with a particular focus on governance and regime change in authoritarian states, comparative regionalism and the geopolitics of energy.



Temur Umarov is a Fellow at the Carnegie Russia Eurasia Center. His research focuses on Central Asian countries' domestic and foreign policies and China's relations with Russia and Central Asia. A native of Uzbekistan, Umarov previously worked for the Chinese company Lifan Group's CIS representative office, where he was responsible for the development of business in Central Asia and the South Caucasus.



Dr Luca Anceschi is Professor of Eurasian Studies at the University of Glasgow where he has been teaching Central Asian Studies since 2013. His research focuses on foreign policy creation, major energy projects and personalist rule in Central Asia. He has written books on both Turkmen and Kazakh foreign policy and since 2015 has been the editor of Europe-Asia Studies, the world's premier academic journal for the study of the post-socialist countries of Europe and Asia.

