



***China, India & the United States  
in Bangladesh:  
Cultivating Competitive Cooperation***

**Day-long Conference  
February 23, 2017**



***Global Studies & Governance Programme***  
**School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (SLASS)**  
**INDEPENDENT UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH (IUB)**



## ***China, India & the United States in Bangladesh: Cultivating Competitive Cooperation***

Middle-income membership requires enormous infrastructural investments. With foreign countries and corporations, Bangladesh's top priority is to build new highways, ports, railways, energy production sources, special economic zones, and the like. On the one hand, it must prepare for exploding consumer needs: from automobiles, ships, steamboats, and carriages, to solar panels, increasingly high-end garments, leather goods, and pharmaceutical products, not to mention more food, fuel, and fiber. On the other, inevitable social-economic and socio-political concerns demand attention: protecting the environment, women, farmers, and minority groups against full-blooded market competition; dissipating security concerns, especially as another refugee influx looms; balancing infrastructural project distribution between crisscrossing Chinese, Japanese, and U.S. interests, among others; and attracting others in Southeast Asia, South Korea, Europe, or across Latin America, to come, create, and cultivate opportunities opened by this transformation.

IUB's Global Studies & Governance Program addresses some of these on February 23 in a day-long conference entitled "China, India, and the United States in Bangladesh: Competitive Cooperation?" Former and foreign diplomats, as well as academics and policy-makers will share their first-hand experiences/knowledge on wide-ranging issues with students, scholars, and citizens at large.

The conference also projects IUB's new Global Studies & Governance Program into the scholarly domain, with inducements for all: new knowledge for both students and scholars to grind; societal exchanges for policy-makers to harvest; and future prospects of the evolving Bangladesh for corporations, job-seekers, and soothsayers to contemplate. Ultimately, the presented papers will be converted into a book, reflecting the necessary interaction between Bangladeshis increasingly curious of competitiveness-related external dynamics (branding, marketing, coalition-building, trade-offs), and their international guests/friends equally hungry to know where we are headed, what can they do, and why working together may be our better strategy.

## PROGRAM

- 9:00-11:00 *Opening Session, Auditorium*
- 9:00-9:05 Welcoming comments from *Mr. Rashed Chowdhury*, Chairman, Board of Trustees, IUB
- 9:05-9:10 Welcoming comments from *Prof. M. Omar Rahman*, Vice Chancellor, IUB
- 9:10-9:15 Welcoming comments from *Prof. Milan Pagon*, Pro-Vice Chancellor (Designate), IUB
- 9:15-9:20 Welcoming comments from *Dr. Mahbub Alam*, Dean, SLASS, IUB
- 9:20-9:25 Welcoming comments from *Dr. Md. Abdul Khaleque*, Dean, SESM, IUB
- 9:25-9:40 Introduction to Global Studies and Governance (GSG) Program & the conference, *Dr. Imtiaz A. Hussain*, Head, GSG, IUB
- 9:40-10:00 Her Excellency, The Ambassador of the United States to Bangladesh, *Marcia Bernicat*.
- 10:00-10:20 *Mr. Kunzang N. Tshering*, Director of the Secretariat, BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multisectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation), Bangladesh.
- 10:20-10:40 Response: *Dr. Salehuddin Ahmed*, Adjunct Professor, IUB, BRAC University, former Pro-Vice Chancellor, BRAC University.
- 10:40-10:55 Vote of Thanks : *Mr. Abdul Hai Sarker*, Chairman, ESTCDT, IUB's parent body.
- 10:55-11:00 Closure
- 11:00-11:30 *Refreshments, Multipurpose Room*
- 11:30-1:30 Morning Session: **Endogenous South Asian Dynamics**, Room 7002
- 11:30-11:45 Moderator: *Dr. Mustafizur Rahman*, Executive Director, Center for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka.
- 11:45-12:00 *Ms. Raisa Rasheeka*, Lecturer, Department of Media and Communication, IUB "Competing Chinese and U.S educational strides: Case study of Bangladesh."

- 12:00-12:15 *Mr. Munshi Faiz Ahmad*, Chairman, Bangladesh Institute of International and Strategic Studies (BIISS), former Ambassador, "China and South Asia."
- 12:15-12:30 *Dr. Nazneen Islam Khan*, IUB, "Chinese diaspora: Influences, challenges, contributions."
- 12:30-12:45 *Dr. Shamsun Nahar Ahmed*, Adjunct Professor, School of Business, IUB, "Women, work, and development: Bangladesh and China."
- 12:45-1:00 Reviewer, *Dr. Meghna Guhathakurta*, Executive Director, Research Initiatives, Bangladesh.
- 1:00-1:30 Public discussions/questions/comments
- 1:30-2:30 *Lunch, Faculty Lounge, Room 4004*
- 3:00-5:00 Afternoon Session: **Exogenous South Asian Dynamics**, Room 7002
- 3:00-3:05 Moderator: *Mr. Tanvir Ahmed Haroon*, Lecturer, Department of Environmental Management, School of Environmental Science & Management, IUB.
- 3:05-3:25 *Dr. Francisco Haro Navejas*, Faculty of Economics, University of Colima, Mexico; & *Professor Cristina Tapia Muro*, Faculty of Politics and Social Sciences, University of Colima, Mexico, "China and India in Latin America: Confronting an authoritative U.S. government."
- 3:25-3:45 *Dr. A.N.M. Shibly Noman Khan*, and *Kazi Md. Jamshed*, School of Business, IUB, "21st Century Nationalism: Growth catalyst or globalization speed-bump?"
- 3:45-4:05 *Dr. Imtiaz A. Hussain*, Head, Global Studies & Governance, IUB, "Asia, Latin America, & globalization: Close encounters of the third kind."
- 4:05-4:25 *Mr. Ashfaqur Rahman*, former Ambassador to China, "China, India, and the United States : The future of global governance, with Bangladesh as a sub-player."

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- 4:25-4:45 Reviewer: *Mr. M. Humayun Kabir*, Vice President, Bangladesh Enterprise Institute, former Ambassador to the United States.
- 4:45-5:00 Public discussions/questions/comments
- 5:00-5:15 *Refreshments, Room 7002*
- 5:15-7:15 Evening Session, **Battlefront Bugles**, Room 7002
- 5:15-5:20 Moderator: *Ms. Syeda Sakina Mumtaz Huq*, Lecturer, Department of Law, IUB
- 5:20-5:35 *Dr. Syed Mahmud Ali*, formerly Associate, East Asia International Affairs Program, London School of Economics, IDEAS, "Past as Prologue: South Asia in China-India-U.S. Strategic Competition."
- 5:35-5:50 *Dr. Lt. General (Ret.) Mohammad Aminul Karim*, Professor, Business School, IUB, "The China-India-United States strategic competition in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR): Paradigm shift?"
- 5:50-6:05 *Dr. Manzurul Mannan*, Department of Anthropology, IUB, "Soft power strategies & conflict hotspots in Bangladesh."
- 6:05-6:20 *Ms. Kashfia Ameen*, Adjunct Lecturer, School of Business, IUB, "The geopolitics of Bangladesh-China trade."
- 6:20-6:35 *Major General Muhammad Ashab Uddin*, ndc, psc (ret'd), former Ambassador to Kuwait/Yemen, "India-Bangladesh relations: Perspectives and prospects."
- 6:35-6:50 Reviewer: *Mr. Abul Hasan Chowdhury*, former State Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- 6:50-7:15 Public discussions/questions/comments
- 7:15 Closure
- 7:30-9:00 *Dinner, Multipurpose Room***



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