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The first meeting of CCIRS Conference in Delhi

27-29 April 2011

“India in International Relations: European and Indian perspectives” were the main points discussed at the first International seminar held in India on April 27-29 2011. After several meetings in Poland, the conference was for the first time hosted in Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi), at the School of Arts and Aesthetics Auditorium where Indian, Nepalese and European professors deeply exposed their researches and ideas not only in front the professors but also the Indian students who showed actively their interest making high level questions especially the last day. Before analyzing the relations between India and EU, it was given an overview on the current transformation of India as an emerging power. The increasing development of India is evident in every sector, prof J. Prabhakara Rao (University of Hyderabad) put in evidence how “*now-a-days print and electronic media is growing rapidly and widely [...] reflecting and interpreting regional, national and global issues*”. Indian transformation was also discussed by prof. K.C. Suri (Univeristy of Hyderabad) investigating on the voting behaviour in India: “*we find that unlike most of the western nations, about one-*

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third of India's electorate is illiterate, and an equal proportion of population live below poverty line, and the society is quite heterogeneous in its composition. In this enviroment of high illiteracy, poverty and social divisions and strong traditional identities, there were doubts in the initial decades after independence about the ability of the voters to make rational and informed decisions in choosing represen-

tatives. But India's success as a democracy is attributed to the reasonable levels of political literacy, presence of strong political parties and availability of political leaders at various level of the policy to mobilize support [...] over the years, the size of India's electorate has enormously grown, which in 2009 stood at about 717 million."

What is really surprising is the speed of change of this country which has become the third largest economy country since 2010 and as prof. Khagendra P. Ojha exposed "Government of India Report (2002) explains that the vision of India 2020 is predicated on the belief that human resources are the most important determinant of overall development. The knowledge and skill of our workforce will be a major determinant of India's future rate of economic growth as well as the type and number of jobs we create. This shift from material to knowledge-based resources opens up vast opportunities for the developing countries to accelerate the pace of development. India's rate of economic growth can be substantially increased if the country becomes a super-power in knowledge".

The Ambassador of EU to India, H.E. Daniele Smadja, analyzing the skills of this country, stated that "India is an emerging power with many things in common with EU", in fact India and EU are getting more and more linked, so that at the present "EU is India's largest trading partner. In 2008-09, India's imports from EU was about 14% of total India's imports, and India's exports to EU accounting for about 21% of India's exports [...] there is a prospect for significantly increasing services trade with India as India maintains a high rate of growth of the economy and becomes, in the course of

the next few decades, a major economy of the world" as prof. Bishwanath Goldar (Institute of Economy Growth, Delhi) added. But a complete overview on the rapid Indian growth also shows as prof. Balveer Arora (Institute of Social Science, New Delhi) deeply stressed "Today, the governance of economic growth has to be skilfully combined with the political management of poverty" and "the Indian government is, however, not ready to include government procurement as a part of the EU-India FTA [...] which is, for the EU, a must for the negotiations of the FTA" further specified by prof. Bishwanath Goldar. So India needs to face many challenges and implements many changes before becoming an effective EU partner country.

After listening carefully to the professors reports, what I found very interesting were the students' observations and considerations about all was discussed in those three days. At the break times I had chance to interact with students and pose them some questions about what, according to them, India should do to solve its domestic problems and reach its amazing potential.



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They started from the need of raising educational achievement - a great num-

ber of young people doesn't receive even the basic education - and increasing universities both in quantities and in qualities. Then they moved their attention to the urgent need of improving governance necessary to increase agricultural productivity, build solid infrastructure - as roads and airports - control inflation, increase trade with the powerful Chinese neighbour but overall liberalize financial markets and pursue financial reforms. All of these changes require decades and need to be done respecting the environment quality and security which is – as prof. Antonio Marquina (Universidad Complutense de Madrid) evidenced – in a big risk. So students learnt from their professors very much and elaborated their own opinions long their university course length.

As Indian culture researcher, I found this three-days conference a very high level experience, not only for the interesting reports, showing sometimes even completely opposite opinions on the same subjects, but especially for the exchange occurred among professors of different nationalities and among students of different departments. I think that part of main CCIRS goals was achieved those days, like knowing more about India as an emerging power, understanding what type of relations linked India and EU and what solutions can be found to face the domestic and international challenges. The ideas comparison was, once more, the most important means of communication, useful for these complex cultures to grow together in mutual respect and maintain their own peculiarities. Next meeting in November 2011 will be held in India again, this time in Hyderabad University, where professors will keep on

working together in order to satisfy CCIRS targets planned two years ago. **(Agnese Rollo)**

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Jawaharlal Nehru University and Centre for Contemporary India Research and Studies, Institute of International Relations, University of Warsaw
Research and studies Council meeting

India in International Relation: European and Indian perspectives

27 April (Wednesday)

Opening remarks

- Professor Sudhir Kumar Sopory, Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Professor Piotr Klodkowski, Ambassador of Poland to India
- Professor B.B. Bhattacharya, Professor of Economics, former Vice-Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Dr Jakub Zajączkowski, chairperson of centre for Contemporary India Research and Studies, Institute of International Relations, University of Warsaw

Panel I: India: Emerging Power: Cultural and Historic dimension

- Professor Ira Bhaskar (School of Arts and Aesthetics), Jawaharlal Nehru University, ***Global Politics in Modern Indian Arts***
- Professor J. Prabhakara Rao, University of Hyderabad, ***Indian Languages and Media***
- Dr Malgorzata Bonikowska, EU-India Council, ***Being Indian – Being European : unity in diversity***

- Dr. Suryakant Waghmore, TATA Institute of Social Science, Mumbai, ***Global Civil society and Local Politics in India***

Panel II: India's democracy: transformation and continuity

- Professor K.C. Suri, University of Hyderabad, ***Voting Behaviour in India***
- Dr Amid Prakash (Special Centre for Law and Governance), JNU, ***India's democracy at the turn of XXI centur***
- Professor S. Tokarski, Polish Academy of Sciences, ***Federalism and democracy: political, economic and cultural changes in the process of democratization***
- Professor Balveer Arora, Former rector of Jawaharlal Nehru University, ***Multilevel Federalism in Theory and Practice***

Panel III: India: Emerging Power – European and cultural perception

- Professor Irene Martin Cortes, Universidad Autonoma Madrid, ***India in Political Science Writing: European and American perspectives***
- Professor Zuzanna Lehmanova, ***Indian Culture: Paradigm analysis: European perspectives***
- Agnesse Rollo, Istituto di Pubblicismo, ***The Allurement of India in Italian Imagery***
- Professor Tanja Renner, University of Ljubljana, ***For orientation, against orientalism: some considerations on Indian women in politics and economy***

28 April (Thursday)

Panel IV: Indian Economy Transformation: domestic dimension

- Professor K.N. Nair, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum, ***Barriers for sustaining Agricultural growth in India***
- Professor Jyotirmaya Tripathy, Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, Chennai, ***Contemporary Development Debates in India***
- Professor Meenakshi Rajew, Institute for Social and Economic Change, Bangalore, ***Banking Sector Reforms and the Problems of NPA: A Study of Indian Commercial Banks***
- Professor Aruna Pendse, University of Mumbai, ***Agrarian Distress and Patterns of Farmers' Mobilization***

Panel V: India: emerging/emerged economic Power?

- Professor B.B. Bhattacharya, Former Vice-Chancellor of JNU, ***India in world economy: emerging market***
- Professor K. Deshpande, Institute for Social and Economic Change, ***India's strategy in international trade***
- Dr Khagendra Ojha, Global College of Management, Faculty of Management, Tribhuvan University, ***Economic Development Models of China and India: A Relative Outlook***
- Kamil Wyszowski, UNDP, ***Human development in India: UNDP perspectives***

Panel VI: India in Asian security complex

- Professor Manish Thapa, Tribhuvan University, ***India's New Neighbourhood Policy?***

- Professor Smita Purushottam, Institute for Defense Studies and Analyses, Delhi, ***The Geopolitics of India's Extended Neighbourhood***
- Professor Shantanu Chakrabarti, ***Challenges in South Asia: India's Evolving Foreign Policy in a Regional Perspective***
- Professor Jivanta Schottli, University of Heidelberg, ***India and the China-Pakistan relationship: strategic constraints and opportunities***

Panel VII: New India international strategy: regional and global dimension

- Professor Arvind Kumar, Manipal University, ***The India's Nuclear Doctrine***
- Professor Johannes Dragsbeak Schmidt, Aalborg University, ***India China Rivalry and Competition in Southeast Asia***
- Professor Jakub Zajaczkowski, University of Warsaw, ***New India's Global Foreign Policy?***

Panel VIII: New challenges for India's security

- Professor Antonio Marquina Barrio, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, ***Security and climate Change in India***
- Prof. V.K. Jain, (JNU), ***India' Security: Environmental dimension***
- Professor Uday S. Bhaskar, ***Maritime security in India' strategy***

29 April (Friday) CONFERENCE organized with Jean Monnet Chair and CES

**India and European Union:
Partners in XXI century?**

Introduction:

- Ambassador of EU to India, Daniele Smadja
- Professor Piotr Klodkowski, Ambassador of Poland to India
- Professor R. Jain
- Dr Jakub Zajaczkowski

Panel I: Identity dimension

- Dr Karen Devine, Dublin City University, ***Foreign policy Actorness and Regional Integration: Indian - EU perceptions, commonalities and contradictions***
- Professor Sudarsan Padmanabhan, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai, ***EU and India Identity: comparative analyses***
- **Professor Bhaswati Sarkar, Centre for European Studies, JNU (tbc), *India and EU Identity***

Panel II: Political dimension

- Boguslaw Zaleski, Centre for Contemporary India Research and Studies, Institute of International Relations, University of Warsaw, ***EU Foreign Policy after Lisbon Treaty: Implications for India and Asia***
- Professor Salma Bava, CES, JNU, ***EU in IR and EU policy towards India?***
- Professor R. Jain, CES, JNU, ***India and the European Union: A Reality Check after Ten Summits***
- Professor Vijay Sukhaja, Indian Council of World Affairs, ***The EU and the Indian Ocean Region***

Panel III: Economic dimension

- Professor Kim van der Borght, ***EU and India FTA: legal aspects***
- Kalyani Unluke, ***Social reaction on the India-EU Free Trade Negotiations***
- Professor B. Goldar, ***EU and India FTA negotiations: economic dimension***

We appreciate the below contributions offered by professors who attended The first meeting of CCIRS Conference in Delhi 27-29 April 2011.

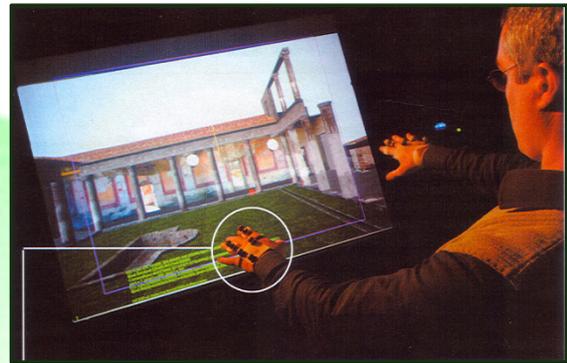
- Professor **Meenakshi Rajeev** - Economic Studies and Policy - Institute for Social and Economic Change - Nagarbhavi

The issue of non-performing assets (NPA), the root cause of the recent global financial crisis, has been drawing the attention of the policy makers and academicians alike. The problem of NPAs, which was ignored till recently, has been given considerable attention after liberalization of the financial sector in India. The paper by Meenakshi Rajeev examines the trends of NPAs in India and other countries including Poland from various dimensions and explains how by mere recognition of the problem and self-monitoring Indian banking sector has been able to reduce NPA to a great extent. It also shows that public sector banks in India, which function to some extent with welfare motives, have as good a record in reducing NPAs as their counterparts in the private sector. Thus banking sector in India is an example of a industry that succeeded to withstand the global competition since liberalization. The paper also discusses the role of joint liability groups (JLGs) or self help groups (SHGs) in enhancing the loan recovery rate and reaching out to the poor.

- Professor **Arvind Kumar**, Department of Geopolitics and International Relations, Manipal University

India's best security interests can be served in a nuclear weapon free world. Since, there is a lack of genuine and serious commitment on the part of the ac-

knowledged nuclear weapon states towards achieving global nuclear disarmament with a definite time framework, India had to go nuclear and exercise its nuclear options overtly in 1998 after maintaining restraint for a number of years. After India crossed the nuclear Rubicon, it was warranted to have a nuclear doctrine. India evolved a set of principles on which the future course of action could be based as far as its nuclear issues were concerned.



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India has formalized its nuclear doctrine by declaring that it will have no-first use of nuclear weapons against nuclear weapon states and non-use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states, achieve a triad capability, maintain a minimum credible nuclear deterrent capability and evolve a robust command and control system. India has been consistently moving towards the acquisition of its stated objectives in its nuclear doctrine. India has acquired nuclear powered submarine to complement its no-first use policy. An analysis and assessment was done during the presentation on all its principles and a linkage was established with its overall security and foreign policy.

- Professor **J. Prabhakara Rao**, Centre for Study of Foreign Languages, University of Hyderabad

Media has become an ubiquitous feature of modern life. It is a major means to

transmit and transfer information and ideas throughout the world. Language represents an effective instrument to fulfill this task. When the function of language is understood as a communication, it can play an indispensable role in media.

The mass media in regional Indian language had registered a rapid growth in recent times. Intensive urbanization, increase in literacy rate and overall development in the life standard of the people, industrialization at local level made to realize the significance of opening regional media. The print and electronic media in Indian languages use colloquial language. The print media tries to use as much as possible native varieties of language where as the electronic media prefers to combine native language with English. The use of Indian languages in the internet is slowly picking up momentum. However, the Indian languages are to be modernize to meet the demands of mass media.

Italy: a cultural bridge towards Europe

By Alberto Graziani*

Everywhere in the world, in the Third Millennium, the progress of India on the socio-economical level causes astonishment and becomes matter of profound analysis. In the European Union there are many efforts aimed at developing knowledge and relations with the Indian sub-continent and it may gather an enormous quantity of information about any specific sector of contemporary India. However, an important part of such knowledge focuses on industry and commerce, as well as po-

litical developments, both domestic and international, since such aspects can impact the trend of complex social and economic development of India.



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In Italy, besides the abovementioned areas, there is a particular interest for the natural vocation to abstraction and philosophical speculation, which has led India to a leading place in research and innovation, from software programs to nanotechnology. Above all, Italy is interested in the contributions offered by the Indian leading class in human rights. For this reason, for example, according to the official data, 50.5% of Indian GDP is produced by services while in China 50.1% of the national GDP is produced by industry.

Actually, a systematic comparison between domestic statistical data of India and European countries turns out ineffective, due to differences concerning social structure, religious beliefs, family traditions, production processes, as well as cultural and sport events.

Thus, the term “globalization” is often used in an inappropriate way. It can be correctly applied to the financial market situation and commercial indexes, but it does not correspond at all to a supposed integration, if applied to lifestyle and economic and cultural needs of each society. In a similar way, the community structure

in Italy bears very particular features, which also date back to origins of thousands years ago and, in the European and world context, make it a country of high cultural density in every field, from science and technology to contemporary art, architecture, music and cinema. This vocation of Italy to offer and exchange cultural products has its historical origin in its geographical position in the center of the Mediterranean Sea, an area of contact and passage between East and West; that in consequence has constituted a basis for commercial exchange development and every type of economic activity. Moreover, nowadays the development of activities related to industry and commerce is primarily rooted in the comprehension and integration of basic cultural norms of every society. Even in contemporary information society, it is necessary to share specific knowledge transmitted by the knowledge of the languages typical of every single discipline, such as law, economics, politics and various communication means.

In this area, as India and Italy, developed the area of services in the tertiary sector, both countries can actually promote training initiatives, especially for young people, through higher education institutions and cultural associations. The common goal is improving the knowledge of specific languages and their correct usage as well as communicating the most significant cultural aspects, prior to making financial agreements and reaching economic targets. History shows that cultural ties provide continuity over time, while simple business contacts can cease to exist after the first drawback of favorable conditions.

This is the framework in which CCIRS initiatives in the biennium 2010-2011 have

been launched. Certainly, they have prepared ground for new successful events, aimed at increasing cultural ties between India and Europe.

*Prof. Alberto Graziani – The President of Istituto di Pubblicità – Professor of the Theory and Technique of Information and Communication.
www.istitutodipubblicita.it



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Italian interdisciplinary language courses, a new European way towards contemporary India by Istituto di Pubblicità

Istituto di Pubblicità (www.istitutodipubblicita.it) a research centre dealing mostly with information and sociology studies, a partner of CCIRS and the publisher and newsdesk of CCIRS newsletter, has connections with Indian Universities and with leading Italian institutes, the Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage and the Municipality of Rome. And Istituto di Pubblicità is presently striving to build cultural bridges between Europe and India, offering a first series of Italian language and culture courses for Indian students, officials and businesspersons, to be held next autumn.

An international multi-disciplinary team of the Istituto, that is working on the project, aims at introducing the prospective students and other people to Italian culture through the above courses with a practical orientation, geared towards the specific needs and real-life situations that visitors from India are facing in Italy.

As an illustration, the course “ Roman lessons: a journey through European art history” is a full immersion language program and its main purpose is to offer a unique opportunity for a direct acquaintance with ancient and modern European art history.

The people attending the course will be taught tourism management, preservation of archaeological treasures and art heritage and art business.

It is a way to introduce some practical issues from the perspective of first-hand experience, within the framework of the language course. Organization, responsibility and accommodation will be arranged by Istituto di Pubblicità. Financial conventions and classes' times and programs will agree according to the teaching needs of Indian Universities, Cultural Institution and Companies.

For more informations, it is possible to contact, as Course Director, Ms Agnese Rollo, (info@istitutodipubblicita.it). She will be available in order to explain all the programs of Istituto di Pubblicità.

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Photos and illustrations

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- 2- [Nehru at Nehru University in Delhi](#)
- 3- [Virtual archaeological research](#)
- 4- [Flying machine by Leonardo da Vinci \(1452 – 1519\)](#)
- 5- [Bicycle prototype by Leonardo da Vinci \(1452 – 1519\)](#)