



USANAS FOUNDATION

DECODE DIAGNOSE DEMYSTIFY

MAHARANA PRATAP ANNUAL SECURITY DIALOGUE

BY
USANAS FOUNDATION

2022 | JANUARY

Usanas Foundation presents its first international conference on the theme, “Transnational Terrorism in the 21st Century and Global Counterterrorism Response”



List of Speakers



USANAS FOUNDATION

Keynote Speakers and Special Guests



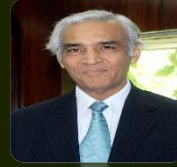
Dr S. Jaishankar
*Minister of Exetrnal
Affairs, India (TBC)*



Ajit Doval
*National Security
Advisor, India (TBC)*



Lisa Curtis
*Director, Indo-Pacific
Security Program, CNAS
(TBC)*



Tajendra Khanna
Former LG, Delhi



Rohan Gunaratna
*Proffesor, RISIS, NTU,
Singapore*

Conference Speakers



Michael Rubin
Senior Fellow, AEI



Arvind Gupta
Director, VIF; Ex IFS



Tara Kartha
*Distinguished Fellow,
IPCS*



Husain Haqqani
*Former Pakistan
Ambassador*



Michael Kugelman
*Deputy Director, Asia
Program, Wilson Centre*



Ely Karmon
*Senior Scholar, ICT,
Reichman University*



Dalbir Ahlawat
*Senior Lecturer,
Macquarie University*



Tricia Bacon
*Assoc. Proff.
American University*



Bruce Hoffman
*Council of Foreign
Relations*



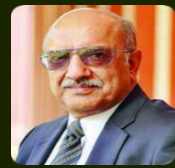
Syed Ata Hasnain
*Lt. Gen. (retd,) Indian
Army*



Amira Jadoon
*Assistant Proffesor,
West Point, USA*



Anil Trigunayat
*Former Indian
Ambassador*



Dhruv C Katoch
*Maj. Gen. (retd)
Indian Army*



Abdullah Bozkurt
*Turkish Journalist;
Head, Nordic Monitor*



Amar Sinha
*Fromer Indian
Ambassador*



John Harrison
*Assoc. Proff.
Rabdan Uni., Iraq*



Jolene Jerard
*Ad. Senir Fellow
RSIS, NTU, Singapore*



Adil Rashid
RF, MP-IDSA



Praveen Swami
Network18 Group



Arbinda Acharya
*Visiting Professor,
XIM University*



Event Schedule

DAY 1

09:30 AM

Inaugural Session

- Welcome Address
- Address by **Mr. Abhinav Pandya**
- Inaugural Speech and Lamp Lightening Ceremony
- Speech by the Keynote Speaker

11:00 AM

Session 1

Assessing 20 Years of Global War on Terror: Successes and Failures

01:30 PM

Session 2

US withdrawal from Afghanistan and Future of Terrorism

03:00 PM

Paper Presentation

06:00 PM

Evening Session

Terror Financing: the Life Support System of Terrorism

DAY 2

09:30 AM

Session 1

Radicalization: the Furnace of Terrorism

11:30 AM

Session 2

Radicalization In South Asia

06:00 PM

Paper Presentation

10:00 AM

Session 1

Terrorism and Counter terrorism: Challenges and the Way-forward

12:00 PM

Session 2

Module 1

India's Counterterrorism Cooperation with Israel and USA

Module 2

Role of Think Tanks and Research in Counter-Terrorism

03:00 PM

Paper Presentation

DAY 4

10:00 AM

Welcome Session

- Introduction by Mr. Abhinav Pandya
- Speech by Vice Chancellor (MSU)
- Speech by Chief Guest

11:00 AM

Plenary Session

11:45 AM

Closing Session

Closing remarks by special guest

The number of sessions and their sub-themes are subject to change as per the merit of the subject

Introduction



USANAS FOUNDATION

DECODE DIAGNOSE DEMYSTIFY

"Apart from himself and his family, he who thinks of his nation is the real citizen"
- Maharana Pratap

Usanas Foundation is organizing its first international conference, Maharana Pratap Annual Security Dialogue, in the second week of January 2022. The theme of the conference is "terrorism and counterterrorism," focusing on transnational terrorism. The conference will host a plethora of experts and scholars over three days and will broadly address some of the following issues.

Day 1: Terrorism - Past, Present, and Future

Assessing 20 Years of Global War on Terror – Successes and Failures: It has been over two decades since the US led coalition waged the war against global terrorism following the 9/11 attacks. However, the global terror scenario is more complicated than it was at the onset of this world-changing phenomenon. Not only terrorism survived the global response against it, but it also gained in strength and lethality through terrorist groups such as ISIS. The US interventions in countries like Iraq, Syria, Libya, and Afghanistan resulted in failed states and strengthening of the non-state actors. The global response through organizations like United Nations and FATF has also not been able to address the question of transnational terrorism adequately and pragmatically.

US Withdrawal from Afghanistan and Future of Terrorism: The return of the Taliban has changed the face of global jihad, and the presence of this new statist terror group has magnified the risk to regional and international security. The country harbors some of the most dangerous terror groups such as Al-Qaeda, Haqqani Network, and ISIS-KP with links to the Taliban. Neighboring states such as India and Central Asian republics face heightened vulnerability to terror spill...



over to their territories. The nexus between Pakistan and these terror groups also exacerbates the security situation, expanding the risk factor to the nuclear threat, particularly when Pakistan is infamously known for clandestine nuclear activities.

Terror Financing – the Life Support System of Terrorism: The US began its war on terror with a bang, launching a massive drive for seizing the assets of terror organizations and also a crackdown on the movement of terror funds. The UN counterterrorism bodies and FATF focused on money laundering and terror financing while disseminating the best practices in countering terror finance to various states and governments. However, after the 15 years of the global war on terror, we came face-to-face with ISIS, the richest terror organization so far, with a massive control over large revenue streams from a diversity of sources. State-sponsors like Pakistan and Turkey continue to sustain terrorist organizations with impunity. Most recently after the advent of the Taliban in Afghanistan and the strengthening of ISIS-KP, we are again witnessing deadly terrorist groups in control of large revenue from the opium trade. Further, terrorists continue to improvise terror financing through technological advancements in communications and new domains like cryptocurrency. Hence, now the pertinent question is— have we failed or succeeded in the war against terror financing?

Day 2: Radicalization

Radicalization: the Furnace of Terrorism: The most potent factor in the proliferation of terrorism is the rapidly growing radicalization trends globally. Several underlying causes, including social, economic, political, psychological, ideological, and historical conditions, serve as context and driving forces for individuals and groups joining extremist organizations. These antecedent conditions are being exploited by terrorist organizations to radicalize young minds. The role of religious schools and institutions is also crucial in this regard. Exporting strictly fundamental and sometimes radical ideologies like Salafism and Wahabism forms the bedrock of religious radicalization.



Radicalization in South Asia: The South Asian region is diverse in demography, culture, religion, politics, and ideologies. Therefore, any regional turbulence has a significant geopolitical impact on the world, and it currently faces grave security threats due to intensified religious radicalization. The emergence of Taliban and ISIS-KP in Afghanistan and Pakistan's jihadist landscape further deteriorate the radicalization trends in the region. On the other hand, extra-regional players like Turkey have been acting as catalysts. They use pan-Islamist ideologies and terror groups to further their geostrategic objectives. They are making serious outreach efforts to regional madrassas and religious institutions, adding significantly to the radicalization and terror threat in South Asia.

Day 3: Terrorism and Counterterrorism in the 21st Century

Terrorism and Counterterrorism - Challenges and the Way Forward: Terrorism has evolved and terror groups now exploit new methods of financing, encrypted communication, tech support, online radicalization through social media, and global campaigning, which is increasingly becoming hard to intercept and counter. The use of drones, Artificial Intelligence, and cryptocurrency intensifies the elusiveness in transnational terrorism. Additionally, new domains like maritime space allow terrorists to penetrate territories and sustain terror networks through illicit activities like piracy and trafficking. As the threat from terrorism has significantly increased, it needs equally evolved mitigation efforts and a focus on enhanced surveillance and technological advancement in countermeasures. Therefore, the evolution of counterterrorism measures depends a lot on the level of technology and a collective/shared global response. Further, targeting the roots of terrorism, for instance radicalization, can be a prudent approach to eliminate the breeding grounds of global terrorism. Hence, the security, intelligence and law enforcement agencies need to introspect and bring appropriate changes in their counterterrorism strategy and tactics.



USANAS FOUNDATION

DECODE DIAGNOSE DEMYSTIFY

India's Counterterrorism Cooperation with International Partners

Terrorism is a global challenge involving various state and non-state actors as key players. Transnational terrorism has hit countries across the globe including major powers such as India, Russia, US, Israel, and Africa [continent]. Countering such a threat requires global efforts through cooperation and international partnership. Israel has become India's robust counterterrorism partner, and the US is likely to be the same, because of shared belief in the ideals of democracy, multiculturalism, human rights etc. Hence, there is an immense scope of counterterrorism cooperation between such countries to effectively address this global threat.

Role of Think Tanks and Research in Counterterrorism

India has been a victim of terrorism for the last four decades. Despite the critical nature of terrorism and challenges it pose to human security, there is a significant shortage of research work and policy literature both from academia and think tanks. Whereas, in the West, especially after the 9/11 attacks in the US, an entire class and culture of terrorism and counterterrorism studies has flourished, making a significant contribution in policymaking and counterterrorism measures.



USANAS FOUNDATION

DECODE DIAGNOSE DEMYSTIFY

Partners

Sponsors and Event Associate



Indian Council of World
Affairs, New Delhi
Chief Sponsor



Manipal Global
Education Services
Sponsor



Mohanlal Sukhadia
University, Udaipur
Event Partner

Knowledge and Outreach Partners



Vivekananda International
Foundation
New Delhi



DGIR
Manipal Academy of
Higher Education



Central University of Jammu
Jammu & Kashmir



Global Policy Insights
London



Indian Forum For
Public Diplomacy



Law and Society Alliance



Maharshi Dayanand
Saraswati University
Ajmer



Global Policy,
Diplomacy, and
Sustainability



Defence Capital



Institute of Contemporary
Studies Bangalore (ICSB)



Jai Narayan Vyas
University
Jodhpur



India Narrative
New Delhi

Media Partners



OneIndia



NewsX
New Delhi



India Blooms

Abhinav Pandya

CEO and Founder

+91 91495 46181

usanasfoundation@gmail.com



USANAS FOUNDATION
DECODE. DIAGNOSE. DEMYSTIFY.



Akshay Kumar

Conference Coordinator

+91 98089 59645

mpasd.usanas@gmail.com

opinion.usanasfoundation@gmail.com