

**ABSTRACT COMPILATION  
IN ENGLISH AND IN FRENCH  
(French version after English)**

The abstracts are put into an alphabetical order of the SURNAMES of author.  
There is no editing in term of language. The abstracts are the copy-paste of those submitted  
to the online form.

**Abstracts in English**

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*Remilitarization of Japan: is it a step toward balance of power or jeopardy, and what will its inflections on US-Japan relations be?*

Japan's US-backed pacifist stance, labeled by the mass media and some academic sources as the 'Yoshida Doctrine, was a lighthouse for Japan's external policy throughout most of its post-WWII history, including the period of its globally renowned 'economic miracle' that put the once-war-torn nation among the most prosperous countries in the world.

Amid the end of the Cold War, Japan continued to enjoy its position as a USA protégé while struggling with the emerging asset price bubble that led to the so-called lost decades. According to many researchers, the financial bubble was caused by the 1985 Plaza Accord, inflicted by Japan's military protector, the USA. The economic success of China gave Beijing a pivot to burst its military, improving its competence. The current China's military competitiveness raises concerns in Washington, let alone Tokyo.

Since the premiership of Shinzo Abe, Japan has aimed to improve its military capabilities, including its historical cornerstone, the navy. The current Prime Minister, Kishida, went even further, announcing the "third major turning point in the history of modern Japan," alongside the Meiji Revolution and the end of WWII. Such a statement raised a lot of questions both within and outside Japan. Arguably, Japan will not have the same status as it has been. What status will it bear, and what will be its regional implications?

In my presentation, I will argue that Japan's remilitarization would be a step toward lessening its military and, consequently, political dependence on the USA. Such development, in turn, would improve Japan's position as a peaceful nation that would not be manipulated with security blackmail by any external power in any field, including its foreign policy and economic policy. In addition, Japan's strong military and geographical location would set the balance of power, which would make any foreign invasion unlikely. Hence, amid any military conflict, including the potential Taiwanese conflict, Japan will be able to afford neutrality.

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*Curriculum development and socially just education*

This research explores the readiness of Indonesian higher education institutions to address issues related to gender roles and disabilities from the unique perspective of

students. Drawing upon qualitative data collected through surveys of 228 participants and interviews of 18 participants, this study investigates the perceptions, challenges, and expectations of students regarding gender inclusivity and accessibility for individuals with disabilities within the higher education landscape of Indonesia. The research aims to shed light on the prevailing attitudes towards traditional gender roles and the level of support and accommodations provided for students with disabilities. Key findings reveal nuanced perspectives on gender roles, reflecting a complex interplay between cultural expectations and evolving attitudes. Students express a desire for greater equality and understanding, urging educational institutions to foster environments that encourage inclusivity and challenge traditional norms. Additionally, the study uncovers the multifaceted challenges faced by students with disabilities, ranging from physical barriers to social stigmas, underscoring the need for proactive measures to create accessible and supportive academic spaces. The implications of this research extend beyond the immediate context of Indonesian higher education, offering insights into the broader discourse on gender inclusivity and disability support in diverse cultural and educational settings. As global efforts intensify to promote diversity and inclusivity within academia, the perspectives presented in this study contribute to the ongoing dialogue on creating more equitable and accessible learning environments. Recommendations derived from the findings aim to inform policies and initiatives that foster an inclusive and supportive higher education experience for all students in Indonesia and beyond.

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*Halal lifestyle and Islamic cosmopolitanism in the eyes of Indonesian muslim women writers*

One of the interesting issues that often appears in works of the Islamic genre is the halal lifestyle. Halal lifestyle has always been the main message in Islamic Literature in line with one of the roles of Islamic Literature in Indonesia, namely that literature is a medium for da'wah. Halal lifestyle presented by these Islamic literature writers, is the form or model of a halal lifestyle in line with what happens in the real world in Indonesia or is it just fiction? Considering the huge potential of halal lifestyles both economically and culturally, this study will examine in a complex manner the Islamic works of Indonesian Muslim writers, especially female writers and their readers. Halal lifestyle is often associated with women, especially the way they dress (fashion) cosmetics, food, and even the way they travel. In many halal product advertisements, women are always the target market, so women are closely associated with halal life (although not exclusively women). Even though literature is fiction, the ideology contained in it is a reflection of reality. Literature has no meaning if there are no readers. The existence of an intertextual relationship can be related to the reader's reception because it is the reader who determines whether there is a connection between one text and another, based on her/his perception, understanding, knowledge, and experience of reading other texts previously. In responding to the halal lifestyle, it is very urgent to see how readers interpret the halal lifestyle in the works they read and what they understand. The specific aim is to examine the halal lifestyle in Indonesian Popular Islamic Literature compared to what is known or understood by the public, especially fans/readers of Islamic Literature.

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*Energy, currency, UN - The brutal power of colonialism, the hegemony of the US was based on military revolution and currency.*

As the battlefields of today in the Near East and Ukraine show, the military revolution is nearly finished after 500 years. Peace shall come because weapons are lacking for these wars and the production in the NATO countries will not be raised because profit is lacking. What brought profit like the F-35 is worthless for the wars of today. Also, the power of the petrodollar comes to an end. With the rise of Asia, a new financial system also rises. But Asia, Africa are not able to control a new currency. Their realistic perspective is a multipolar world. My suggestion is to unify all the different platforms under control of a fair UN. My suggestion to the UN is new energy based on Quantum technology. This new energy would enable the UN to control a new world currency and make peace a realistic option for the world. Without a fair and strong UN, the conflicts would be kept alive. What the world needs is a culture of peace. And that means not only the end of destruction, killing, but also new cooperation, new usage of new technologies.

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*Asia's Rise- Addressing the issues of inequality & climate change*

The rise of Asia in the coming decades is accepted globally. The pattern of integration is not as per European standards. But the features of post colonial societies are reflected in the pattern. The rise of Asia as a Centre of economic and political power is dependent on how it addresses the issues of inequality and climate change keeping in mind its legacy of being victims of colonialism. Asia should have a clear cut strategy of challenging inequalities created out of neoliberal globalization. otherwise it will be just following of western pattern. Second major issue is climate change which the western paradigm of development has failed to address. Asia should lead in this domain which will help it in claiming a real as well as moral ground for global leadership. Instead of regional integration like the EU , it should have the pattern of economic integration on the basis of mutual interest and respect for each other. The history of anti colonial struggle should be the guiding principle in the sense that the global hegemony of western capitalism should not be challenged by opting the same model but by an alternative model of Inclusive Development. The foundation for the emergence of Asia as a global leader should be based on democracy and democratic engagements among Asian nations. Only economic power will not do. Asia should not build itself on the basis of Military power. Social Capital and Economic strength on the basis of Democracy, Equality, Sustainable Inclusive development should be the features of Asian Development.

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*"Wings of change: fostering diversity in aerospace"*

In this session, Sandya will discuss the critical importance of gender mainstreaming in the aerospace industry and share insights on empowering women to excel in this field. Drawing from her extensive experience in aerospace and aviation, Sandya will highlight the

challenges faced by women in the industry and explore strategies for fostering gender diversity and inclusion. She will also showcase the remarkable contributions of women in aerospace and advocate for greater representation and recognition of their achievements.

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*G20 and the rediscovery of the Global South*

This paper epitomizes the accession of India to the presidency in G20 on 1 December 2022, which signifies a major shift in global power politics and area studies. This is a definitive indication of a major shift in the power trajectory towards the global south especially given that it fits into the definition of emerging countries and this is the first step in steering towards the notion of global governance by India. The turbulent unipolar world order is on the descendant paving the way for a multipolar world order. One of the early signs of this trend was the emergence of G20 as a forum seeking to shape international economic order and world governance architecture. Since then, the G20 along with other international forums like the BRICS has played a role in consolidating the interest of the global south member states. The aim of the paper is to discuss the identity of the 'global south' instead of 'third world member states'. It also provides insights into the Latin American perspective following India's presidency at G20 and the strategic significance of New Delhi in the multipolar world and also in the light of China's growing influence in the region.

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*The international commercial arbitration in BRICS: towards a common framework for dispute resolution*

In a perspective where commercial and financial flows among the BRICS countries are expected to steadily increase over time, it will be inevitable to deal with conflicts. Disputes are in fact unavoidable occurrences in international transactions as they are generally caused by differences in commercial and legal expectations, culture, traditions, political implications, and geographic locations. This is particularly true especially for an heterogenous group such as BRICS. Thus, investors and trade partners operating within the BRICS premise are going to need a fair, flexible, and reliable dispute resolution mechanism capable of bridging the said distances and ensuring their disputes to be efficiently and readily resolved.

Recognizing the need for an effective dispute resolution mechanism, the BRICS Legal Forum has played a key role in advocating for the establishment of the BRICS Centres of Dispute Resolution and for the creation of a common legal framework under which they can operate.

This paper discusses how the setting up of a system of BRICS dispute resolution centers (which, at present, are nothing more than arbitration centers) one located in each of the BRICS countries, entails that all of the five countries' arbitration laws may find application either before, during, or after the arbitration proceedings, either intentionally or incidentally. As a consequence, this paper argues how the creation of a system of BRICS arbitration centers will inevitably call for a certain degree of harmonization among BRICS at

two main levels: among the BRICS arbitration laws and among the BRICS centers themselves.

This paper also offers some suggestions on how to improve the overall architecture of the centers, describing what are the necessary steps the centers should make in order to work properly, serve their purposes and be successful in a market already dominated by several and well-established arbitral institutions.

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*BRICS Plus, and the Winner is ...*

Five new countries have joined the BRICS coalition. The enlargement includes countries that are very different from each other and from the founding members: Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Ethiopia, and Iran (finally Argentina declined the invitation). This paper explores the discussion on enlargement, on the advantages and disadvantages of the countries involved in the process and on the partner that has won the competition between the founding members. First, the features of the new member states are discussed revealing potential conflicts among the new entrants. What do Egypt and Ethiopia, or Saudi Arabia and Iran, have in common? What role do they play on the international scene? What is their interest in joining the coalition? Second, the interests of the founding members and their view in the debate on the enlargement are reviewed. What are India's fears on the entry of countries hostile to the United States? What is Russia's interest in involving competitors in the energy resources market? Why does South Africa accept the entry of important African countries? What did Brazil obtain for its consent to Argentina's entry? What is the main purpose that China has pursued in this long and difficult process? Apparently, the only winner is China, which is expanding the market for its products, finding new allies in the international organizations, and building a stronger coalition in financial relations. Yet, while each member – founder or new – is guaranteed some advantage that balances the losses that the enlargement might bring, it remains to be emphasized that now the BRICS Plus coalition shows a greater fragility due to the diversity that characterizes its members. Will China be able to lead the coalition in a context of opposition to the West? Will China be able to keep the promises to new and old partners? Will China succeed in proposing a new shared world order?

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*Mainstream climate narratives and the reinforcement of ecological imperialism*

Ecological imperialism refers to the historical and contemporary exercise of power by the North over the South that leads to ecologically destructive consequences of which the South is usually the victim. Using this power, wealthy countries in the Global North are capable of steering mainstream discourse on global environmental issues in directions that benefit and privilege themselves at the expense of the Global South. Analysis should thus be applied not only to ecological imperialism in the pure economic sense, but also to the uneven power relations in the political and ideological arena that serve to reproduce ecological imperialism in an overarching sense. This article, inspired by the concept of ecological imperialism developed in the Marxian tradition, explores how researchers and global

institutions in the Global North frame the narratives of climate change culpability through selective presentation of emission statistics that tends to minimize the accountability of the North while inflating that of the Global South. Such narratives also contain the Malthusian perception that economic development and population growth in the Global South, above all, should be taken as major threats to climate change solutions. This type of reasoning again serves to justify and maintain the current hierarchical global system and reinforce ecological imperialism.

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*Geopolitical rivalries of actors in a multipolar world*

The start of the New Year is conducive to two important functions of the science of international relations: diagnostic and predictive. I will therefore tackle this challenge using the methods of the geopolitics of critical realism. It requires a focus on the major powers whose actions and interactions super-visualise the international, regional and local order. It is necessary to agree at the outset with Prof. Mearsheimer, who pointed out that a multipolar world already exists as of 2017, with the strongest United States still at its core, as well as the People's Republic of China and the Russian Federation.

Therefore, I will describe the situation and relations of these countries by completing the picture of world geopolitics with the European Union and India.

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*Comparing 'Normative power Europe' and 'Normative power China' in inter-regional higher education cooperation.*

This paper explains different manifestations of normative power and expands the conceptual understanding of the normative power approach to studying higher education cooperation. While 'Normative Power' is often understood as the ability to shape conceptions of the 'normal' in international relations (Manners, 2002), its application in international higher education remains scarce. Therefore, this paper introduces a fresh exploration and application of the 'normative power' concept in examining inter-regional higher education cooperation between the European Union (EU) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and between China and ASEAN.

The EU sought to diffuse the Bologna Process standards and norms to ASEAN through the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) education process which has, since 2008, brought together 51 Asian and European countries, the European Union and the Asian Secretariat. Normative power is not exclusive to the EU, China has been pursuing different mechanisms of inter-regional higher education cooperation with ASEAN through the Belt and Road Initiative's (BRI) since 2013.

This paper first examines what constitutes 'Normative Power Europe' and 'Normative Power China', then compares how key actors exercise their normative power and what outcomes are generated in EU-ASEAN and China-ASEAN interregional cooperation. Employing document reviews, participant interviews and ethnographic observations during education ministerial meetings, the author analyzes how different types of normative power have influenced the formation of the ASEAN higher education common space. The author also argues that the EU's and China's normative power in higher education cooperation is

not defined by the specific norms it seeks to diffuse, but rather by the underlying logic guiding their actions, and the outcomes emerging from the interaction process.

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*India's rise as an Indo-Pacific power: response and challenges*

By any objective measure of material capability, India is a major power in the international system and the consequences of this rise are gradually evident in world politics. Its emerging economic position has enabled India to negotiate a prominent position in the international community and its institutions. As India becomes an increasingly important player in today's globalized world, its stakes in the strategic milieu of different maritime regions, especially the Indo-Pacific region are growing.

However, the overarching Chinese presence, China's assertive claims in the South China Sea and the region's search for alternative regional balancing power have provided an alluring opportunity for India to expand its political and military engagement with the region aided by the major powers of the region like US, Japan and Australia.

The paper would try to evaluate India's strategic relationship with the littoral states of the Southeast Asian region through maritime engagements in the region. India's efforts to be seen as important maritime security providing power and the response of these littoral states to India's call for greater cooperation forms an important part of the paper. It argues that India's engagement in the region is dictated by national security concerns and great power ambitions. It is also driven by India's involvement in the Indo-Pacific Partnership as well as greater expectations by states such as Singapore, Vietnam and Thailand of increased Indian commitment in the support of regional maritime security efforts. While India's bilateral partnerships with Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia present a decent picture, India's Indo-Pacific policy needs more concerted efforts to aggressively pursue its strategic space as well as robust maneuvering among contesting powers to position itself as a responsible maritime power in the region.

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*Reimagining gender mainstreaming: towards inclusive integration*

The notion of 'Gender Mainstreaming' often evokes the image of integrating women into roles traditionally held by men. However, as we delve deeper into the complexities of patriarchy, capitalism, and colonialism, it prompts us to scrutinize this concept. Whose gender are we centering in this mainstreaming process, and within which specific contexts?

While the integration of cis-gender women into urban, capitalist settings is commonly discussed, it raises numerous unresolved questions. What about the integration of men into traditionally feminine roles such as caregiving and household chores? How do we address the inclusion of individuals who identify beyond the binary understanding of gender?

In the Indian context, these questions underscore the unfinished agenda of gender mainstreaming. Instead of merely focusing on mainstreaming, let us aspire towards gender integration – a holistic approach that transcends binary notions and encompasses diverse genders across various societal contexts that are sensitive to nuances and advocate for a more inclusive and equitable approach to gender integration.

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*BRICS and cooperation in space: a new frontier in Africa-Asia relations*

The efforts undertaken by the BRICS – a group of states comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa – in the field of science and technology have recently reached a new milestone with the establishment of a Joint Committee on Space Cooperation. This Committee is officially aimed at enhancing cooperation in the satellite domain to better serve the economic and social development of member countries. It also aims to enable the space agencies of member countries to work together for efficient data sharing and use on issues such as environmental protection, disaster prevention and mitigation, and combating climate change. Initially, this initiative led to the review and adoption of documents on the terms of reference of the joint committee, technical specifications for data exchange, and implementation procedures for joint observation. The establishment of this Joint Committee takes place in a context of intense competition between the West and the rest of the world – often inappropriately referred to as the Global South – and, in terms of space, a hyper-competition mixing pioneering/historic powers, public agencies, major industrial groups, and actors from the new space entrepreneurship (New Space).

Space technologies are not just a set of tools for economic, social development, and prosperity; they are also a formidable instrument of influence, or even a major diplomatic and strategic lever for states that master them and have the adequate industrial and technological base. Within the BRICS, the two Asian powers, China and India, intend to use space infrastructures as catalysts for recording international and strategic relations, particularly towards African countries. Ranked second in space powers with the highest number of successful satellite launches, behind the United States which remains the leading space power thanks to SpaceX's activism, China is disrupting the market rules. Moreover, it possesses mastery over all "space functions," thereby covering all its economic, infrastructural, financial, and military needs. India, for its part, is directly encroaching on competencies held and mastered by Russia, which was a pioneering power in space exploration alongside the United States. The success of the lunar probe Chandrayaan-3, immediately following the failure of Russia's Luna 25 program, clearly illustrated the level of technological mastery and engineering of Indian design offices in key segments of the space sector.

However, the ambitions displayed by these two giants (China and India) will confront several realities that could impact the frameworks of scientific, technological, and industrial cooperation they intend to build with several African countries in the medium term. Indeed, through the development of their space infrastructures, China and India challenge the monopoly held until now by historic powers, including European space. They will also exert additional pressure for the acquisition of natural resources, among which are orbits and frequencies known to be overcrowded for the former and close to saturation for the latter. Finally, one of the major questions will be how China and India manage their delicate relationship with Russia, which also harbors significant strategic ambitions for Africa.

What are the geopolitical interests of BRICS countries in space cooperation with African nations? How does space cooperation between the BRICS and African countries influence political and economic relations between these two regions? What roles do space initiatives play in the broader context of BRICS diplomacy and influence in Africa? How do African countries benefit from space cooperation with the BRICS, and what are the implications for their socio-economic and technological development? Finally, what geopolitical challenges and tensions arise from space cooperation between the BRICS and



Africa, particularly in terms of sovereignty and security? These are the questions that we propose to address during our intervention.

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*Impact of labor law reforms in Sri Lanka on the apparel industry and socio-economic dynamics*

This research examines the repercussions of labor law reforms in Sri Lanka on the vital apparel industry, a cornerstone of the nation's foreign income. Focusing on the government's corruption and the introduction of IMF-guided "flexible laws," the study delves into the ramifications of these reforms on Free Trade Zone (FTZ) workers, particularly women, within the apparel sector.

The implementation of "flexible laws," apparently aligned with IMF guidelines, has significantly altered the landscape for FTZ workers. These changes have resulted in diminished job security, reduced wages, and the elimination of essential benefits such as gratuity, EPF/ETF, and overtime pay. Consequently, the take-home income for these workers has drastically decreased.

Moreover, the adverse effects extend beyond financial constraints. Many workers are compelled to seek alternative sources of income, leading to societal challenges such as engaging in sex work or pursuing opportunities abroad. These decisions not only impact the workers but also disrupt the cultural fabric of their families, including children, causing a profound loss of traditional values and lifestyle.

Of particular concern is the disproportionate impact on women workers, whose rights and job security have been severely compromised. The reforms' implications on women's employment, wages, and overall well-being necessitate urgent attention, as they face heightened vulnerability in an already precarious environment.

By scrutinizing the interplay between labor law reforms, economic crises, and the apparel industry's reliance on foreign income, this research underscores the urgency of reevaluating these reforms' implications. It calls for a comprehensive examination of policy frameworks to safeguard workers' rights, mitigate socio-economic vulnerabilities, and preserve cultural integrity in the face of rapid economic changes.

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*Gender mainstreaming in STEM*

STEM education is turning out to be transformative for gender mainstreaming in India, offering skills crucial for navigating the technology-driven world. Earlier there was an underrepresentation of women in STEM even at the education level. For instance, they were discouraged from taking up engineering education, due to heavy male dominance in the domain. While the situation has improved in that case with more and more young girls taking up STEM education (though the female representation is still low), gender disparities persist in STEM careers. Societal norms and stereotypes discourage girls, leading to a significant gap in STEM workforce representation. The challenge goes beyond skill inadequacy, encompassing stereotypical gender roles and a 'dual role' syndrome. To address this, systemic changes are essential, including dismantling biases, fostering supportive workplaces, and providing mentorship and equal opportunities, ensuring women contribute

significantly to STEM fields and leadership positions. Technology is the backbone of economic growth. With women in leadership positions equipped with technical expertise, we can look at solutions that can bring change at societal level starting from the grassroots.

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*Embracing diverse, equitable, and inclusive gender mainstreaming in geospatial segment*

Asia being a diverse continent and its vastness makes it unique towards progress especially when it focuses on sustainable development goals (SDG), gender equality and empowerment. This acknowledges the need for Gender Mainstreaming of women and social awakening through innovative application of Technology, and change in the attitude of masses, so that due respect and equal status is given to women.

Gender mainstreaming is a challenging transformative agenda that needs concerted efforts and inputs at any organizational level. Gender mainstreaming entails an examination of actions taken and effected at the policy level and an assessment of how they impact on the lives of both men and women. It requires policymakers and enforcers to confront the effects of every decision they take at the macro level and take stock of whether it has positive, negative, or negligible consequences for women.

Gender equality entails a world free of bias, preconceptions, and discrimination. A world that is rich in diversity, equitable, and inclusive. A world where differences are valued and celebrated. Many organizations in the geospatial segment are at the forefront to promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) across the geospatial industry. With the ongoing rapid advancement and innovation in geospatial technology we must build a diverse and inclusive community. An essential aspect of DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion) is the representation of women in the workforce.

Overall, women confront more barriers to education, health, financial resources, technology, land, and other assets, all of which force them to work harder in order to protect their livelihoods. Taking a gender-based approach can help identify gender disparities as well as the underlying social, political, economic, and cultural elements that contribute to these disparities.

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*LGBT representation in children's animation*

This study investigates the ways in which children's animation themes perpetuate LGBT ideology. The pattern of interaction and the dissemination of LGBT ideology packaged as a children's movie commodity called Nimona are the main subjects of this study. A descriptive qualitative technique using library research was the methodology employed in this study. This study demonstrates that the presence of LGBT practices, as portrayed by two well-known characters, is no longer viewed as a taboo and immoral good but rather as something legitimate that should be respected and consumed. This study concluded that Netflix uses its authority including intellectual agents behind the scenes who have an interest in spreading the doctrine of LGBT ideology and gender inclusion so that it can be accepted by the public including children who are considered vulnerable.

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*Importance and implementation of high quality public transit in Surabaya and other cities in Indonesia.*

Transportation based on cars and motorcycles in the cities has negative issues of traffic jams, air pollution and high accident rate. In order to reduce those issues, it is very important to push the switch from car and motorcycle to public transportation. Some cities in Indonesia have started to prepare high quality public transit systems, however the success story is only implementation of street based transit using buses. Majority of the cities served in recent time are by medium buses, two cities by standard bus, Jakarta and Palembang have rail base transit systems. This study analyzes correlation between the budget of local cities, the regulations and the mode of public transit. It is concluded that the small city government budget is only sufficient in purchasing the service of medium bus, medium city government budget is sufficient enough to buy the standard bus service, and provincial or national government budget is capable to provide the service using standard bus, articulated bus and rail base transit such as Light Rail Transportation and Mass Rapid Transportation. It is also indicated that if a local city will provide a new rail route, a complicated regulation involving the provincial and national government must be faced. This complicated bureaucracy is not a threat for providing bus routes.

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*Disaster risk level assessment in earthquake reduction efforts.*

*Case Study at SD Al-Ichsan, Bulak Banteng Village, Surabaya City*

Background: Surabaya has the potential to experience earthquakes because located around the Kendeng Fault was active and predicted to cause earthquakes up to magnitude 6.5 and in December 2021, Surabaya had an earthquake (4.4 magnitude). Children are one of the vulnerable groups to the impacts of disasters. Schools, as places where children spend their daily time, must be safe places for them when a disaster occurs. This research aimed to assess disaster risk levels that may occur in schools.

Method: This research was a descriptive study conducted at Al-Ichsan Elementary School, one of the areas supported by the Amertakasih Program in developing the Disaster Safety Education Unit, in May 2023. The population study included 111 students in 4th and 5th grades, 17 teachers, and 2 administrative staff. We studied hazard, vulnerability, capacity, and disaster risk levels. Hazard was assessed by using a survey. The vulnerability and capacity were measured in human, economic, infrastructure, social-cultural and environmental aspects. Data was collected through interviews, Focus Group Discussions, and observation. Disaster risk level analysis was based on PERKA BNPB No. 02/2012.

Results: There were 58,6% of respondents agreed that the hazard to occur in schools was an earthquake. The vulnerability variables human, economic and socio-cultural aspects were in the moderate category, while infrastructure and environmental aspects were considered as high category. Meanwhile, the capacity variables, human and infrastructure aspects were considered as low category, and economic, sociocultural, and environmental

aspects were considered as a moderate category. The disaster risk level was 3.5 (moderate to high; 3-4 points).

Conclusion: The risk level of earthquakes in school was considered moderate to high. The level of vulnerability was still high but the school infrastructure and human aspects still needed to be increased through continuing education and development infrastructure on disaster risk reduction.

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*The Bandung spirit in contemporary Southeast Asian regional organisations: ASEAN and the MRC*

The African Asian Conference was a show of agency and sovereignty by a number of countries to which these qualities were often denied. Rather than just fully submitting themselves to either of the two emerging camps in the escalating Cold War these countries looked for a third way. The fundamental concepts that were established during the conference are governing to this day various regional institutions, most importantly the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) but also smaller organizations like the Mekong River Commission (MRC). However, recent developments have put pressure on these organizations, in the case of ASEAN it is namely the coup and ongoing civil war in Myanmar and for the MRC the rise of the People's Republic of China and its more assertive foreign policy.

The proposed presentation will be focused on the way these organizations are tackling their challenges and how they can stay true to the Bandung Spirit while keeping their positions as important stakeholders and forums for discussion and action. Both organizations, especially in the West, are often described as "paper tigers" or similar, in the presentation I will challenge this assertion while at the same time show how these organizations have reached their current position.

The findings of the presentation will demonstrate how the history of the region has influenced the current workings of the regional organizations, and simultaneously provide an example for other regional organizations for development and evolution. While ASEAN has shown some flexibility towards their fundamental principles and a willingness to reinterpret them with the changing times, the MRC on the other hand never fully implemented parts of the Bandung spirit and with the rise of new regional organization (favored by the PRC) focused on the Mekong is in danger of becoming obsolete.

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Abstract 1:

## *Blockchain Technology in the Halal Market: Advancing Standardization and Interoperability*

This paper explores the transformative impact of blockchain technology within the Halal market and industry, specifically focusing on addressing standardization and interoperability issues. As the Halal sector experiences significant growth, concerns about transparency, certification processes, and supply chain traceability have become paramount. Blockchain technology, celebrated for its decentralized and immutable nature, presents a promising solution to enhance trust and efficiency within the Halal ecosystem.

The research delves into blockchain adoption in the Halal market, assessing its potential to establish standardized protocols and ensure seamless interoperability among diverse stakeholders. The absence of universally accepted standards within the Halal industry has hindered global trade and consumer confidence. Blockchain's capacity to establish a secure and transparent distributed ledger offers a pathway to overcome these challenges.

This paper examines successful blockchain implementations in Halal supply chains. It evaluates how these applications contribute to standardization by fostering uniformity in certification processes and enhancing cross-platform compatibility. Additionally, the study explores the role of blockchain in facilitating collaboration among various entities involved in the Halal industry.

The findings contribute to the ongoing discourse on the intersection of blockchain technology, standardization, and interoperability within the Halal market. The research underscores the importance of collaborative efforts among industry players, certification bodies, and regulatory agencies in establishing a cohesive blockchain framework. Ultimately, this paper aims to guide policymakers, industry leaders, and technologists in navigating the evolving landscape of blockchain technology to advance the Halal market with a focus on standardization and interoperability.

Abstract 2:

## *Navigating the blue economy: Assessing WTO regulations and support in Southeast Asia*

This paper investigates the intersection of the blue economy and World Trade Organization (WTO) regulations, specifically focusing on the extent to which WTO rules support the burgeoning blue economy, particularly within the Southeast Asian region. The blue economy, encompassing sustainable maritime sectors such as fisheries, aquaculture, and ocean-based tourism, holds significant economic growth, environmental conservation, and social development potential.

The study employs a comprehensive analysis of WTO agreements, trade policies, and regional initiatives to evaluate the level of alignment and support for the principles and practices associated with the blue economy. Special attention is given to the unique challenges and opportunities presented in Southeast Asia, a region characterized by rich marine biodiversity and a diverse range of coastal economies.

Through a comparative approach, the paper assesses the effectiveness of existing WTO regulations in promoting sustainable practices within the blue economy and identifies potential areas for improvement. Additionally, it explores the role of regional cooperation and trade agreements in enhancing the integration of blue economy principles into international trade practices.

This research contributes to the ongoing discourse on sustainable development, trade governance, and the blue economy, offering insights for policymakers, trade negotiators, and Southeast Asian stakeholders. By understanding the current regulatory landscape, the paper aims to inform discussions on how the WTO can better accommodate and promote the blue economy within the context of the region's evolving economic and environmental priorities.

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*The impact of one-way traffic to the accessibility of the trans Semanggi and Suroboyo bus service in Surabaya.*

The primary bus corridors in Surabaya, Indonesia are operated by two providers that have not yet been fully integrated. The first provider is the city government with an armada named Suroboyo Bus, while the second provider is the central government with an armada named Trans Semanggi. Suroboyo Bus operates a total of two routes, consisting of the route from Purabaya Terminal-Jl. Rajawali (North-South) and Unesa-Terminal Oso Wilangun (middle-eastern), while Trans Semanggi operates two routes, consisting of the route from Unesa-Pakuwon City (East-West) and Pantai Ria Kenjeran-Gununganyar (Eastern North East). The operation of these two bus providers overlaps in several locations within the city, causing confusion for passengers trying to board the same bus for reverse direction as the one-way streets applied within several corridors. This study examines the problems that can arise as a result of one-way traffic and proposes steps that the government can take to minimize its impact.

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*The production of gender and its affects - a critical engagement with the dominant praxis in gender and development*

The intervention will consolidate critical reflections on the transformations in and challenges to development praxis relating to gender. Taking the increasing recognition of gender diversity as a fulcrum, I will argue for a revisit of the fundamental understanding of gender itself, and a shift to a focus on the production of gender through development praxis.

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*The role of Eurasia in classical geopolitical thinking in the post-Halford Mackinder era*

Modern geopolitical concepts of Eurasia can only be analyzed in the light of classical geopolitical theories. The views of the great predecessors of the Anglo-Saxon geopolitical school, Alfred Thayer Mahan and Sir Halford John Mackinder, can be seen as an important point of reference, while the theoretical work of their successors has made a significant contribution to the subsequent development of geopolitics, so there is no doubt that although the system of international relations has changed considerably in the 21st century, classical geopolitical theories still have a place in the field.

This presentation will show how Karl Haushofer interpreted Eurasia, consisting of German, Russian and Japanese centers of power, and his vision of a supercontinent dominated by Germany. It will then analyze in detail the ideas of Nicholas J. Spykman, who saw gaining control over the periphery of the supercontinent as the most important goal for the United States during the Cold War. The ideas of Raoul Castex are also presented, who

predicted both the rise of China and the impending conflict with the West, while emphasizing the increasing importance of the Eurasian coastal states. It is revealing that some theorists have also emphasized the importance of the Arctic, a region that is gaining geostrategic importance today with the melting of polar ice. The presentation also points out that even in the 21st century, a fundamental motive of US geostrategy is to prevent the unity of Eurasia and the German-Russian and Russian-Chinese alliance. It will also emphasize the importance of China's Belt and Road Initiative alongside the resurgence of traditional geopolitical rivalries.

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*The interweaving of tradition and modernity in Iranian security-related thinking: How does the support of extraterritorial Shia groups fit Iran's strategic goals?*

The Islamic Republic of Iran represents a significant economic and political power due to its strategic geographical location and its outstanding amount of hydrocarbon reserves on a global scale. Iran is located at the intersection of the Middle East, the Persian (Arabian) Gulf, the Caucasus, Central and Western Asia, has been the scene of regional power competition, and has served as a link between East and West for thousands of years.

In Iran, tradition and modernity are bound together by strong and delicate threads even in the present age. Among many other areas, the interweaving of tradition and modernity can also be spotted in the field of security-related thinking. Although the Islamic revolution that became victorious in Iran in 1979 brought about significant changes in several aspects, and is even considered a watershed in Iranian history, the governance model based on the theory of the 'rule of the jurist' still in force shows many similarities with the fundamentals of the eras that preceded it when it comes to strategic thinking, although it presents the relevant content in a different ideological guise.

For two centuries now, the focus of Iranian security policy and strategic thinking has been the pursuit of regional power status, the reliance on self-reliance and the modernization of the national armed forces, as well as the closely related enhancement of deterrence capabilities. The diverse and still diversifying activities of Iran's Quds Force serve well all these three strategic goals.

My presentation will outline the three cornerstones of the Iranian strategic thinking and explore how Iran's support for Shia political and armed groups operating beyond the borders of the Islamic Republic fits the basic tenets of the country's security related thinking and strategy.

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*Adaptive collaborative management in response to environmental issues in Asia-Africa*

(see the abstract of Trikurnianti KUSUMANTO)

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Beijing in recent years has enhanced its engagement with the Middle East region in the backdrop of perceived American withdrawal from the region. While it is an approach to the region is visible in BRI and Arab Policy Paper 2016. Moreover, the rise in China's energy demands and the rivalry with USA has marked a change in Chinese approach to the region, whereby it tried to play a greater role in the region by exploiting the strategic vacuum- as was also visible in the recent mediation attempt by China in the mediation between Saudi Arabia and Iran. The staunch rivals in the region that have competed with each other for having influence in the region which was visible in Iraq, Syria, Yemen, Bahrain, Lebanon etc. Hence played a crucial role in the turmoil situation that had persisted in the region which also had ramification for the energy market since, both aspire to be the regional hegemon. China on the other hand, is seeking to take the support of both and the whole Arab World on the ongoing issues related to Taiwan due to the involvement of the USA. At the same, it wants to control volatility in the energy market by portraying itself as the world leader to resolve ongoing issues with several other calls to meditate on the different issues of the region. But what are the Chinese aspirations in the region? The proposed paper seeks to analyze the role of China in the Middle East region and its mediation attempt to resolve the Saudi- Iranian rivalry. Which poses greater questions as whether the rivalry is really over or was just rhetoric?

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*The emergence of New World Order: A pragmatic model of Asian economy*

The world order constitutes the institutions, frameworks, and rules that shape international affairs. During the Era of Markets, Asia rode a wave of prosperity through expanding trade with the world and—leveraging complementary comparative advantage—within Asia. It integrated economically without needing a political alliance and formal governance. But in a new era, noneconomic factors may play a bigger role, raising the question of whether Asia will continue its pragmatic cooperation in a more contested, multipolar world. Clearly, there is a broader need to reduce risks in the global economy and strengthen financial safety nets. Whenever a country faces a difficult situation, whether the problem is of a short-term nature or a more fundamental disequilibrium, the Fund is ready to help with policy advice—and with financial assistance, if warranted. This can be done only if our strengthened surveillance leads us to give greater attention to capital account developments, the soundness of domestic banking systems, the quality and timeliness of data countries released to the public, and other issues of particular relevance to emerging market economies, including those in Asia.

Asia's robust economic growth and its position as the world's manufacturing and trade hub give it a critical global role. Asia accounted for 57 percent of global GDP growth between 2015 and 2021. In 2021, Asia contributed 42 percent of world GDP (at purchasing power parity), more than any other region. It cemented its status as a major presence in world trade.

In this Era Asia has created its deep linkages and interdependencies. But the world is morphing into a more complex multipolar one in which politics and rivalry loom larger. And where trade flows are concentrated—a country may be the only supplier to another—such dependency could create risk. Which raises the question whether Asia's pragmatic model of integration holds up well in a changing world or comes under strain?



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*Adaptive collaborative management in response to environmental issues in Asia-Africa*

In 2000, the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR) initiated multi-country research on a forest management approach referred to as adaptive collaborative management (or ACM). The research used participatory action research as a research framework and aimed to generate insights about the role of collaboration and social learning in forest management. The research has become a basis for CIFOR's later research endeavors, including related to climate adaptation and broader scale governance.

ACM is a transdisciplinary approach and provides a conceptual basis for how to treat disciplinary differences. Crucially, inclusivity is key in ACM: it shapes conditions to gaining access to a holistic understanding of relevant contexts, responding appropriately to human and environmental needs, and respecting human rights and ethical issues (Colfer and Prabhu 2023).

ACM has been viewed as an emergent governance approach for complex social-ecological systems that connects the learning function of adaptive management with the linking function of collaborative management. ACM's applicability in research and practice lies particularly in the merging of collaboration with knowledge-oriented processes. It is characterized by conscious efforts among groups to communicate, collaborate, negotiate, and seek out opportunities to learn collectively about the impacts of their actions (Colfer 2005).

The paper explores expanding an ACM approach to broader Asian-African social-ecological collaboration by testing the approach to deal with urban flooding in Jakarta, Indonesia, as a wicked problem (Kusumanto et al. 2023) and vehement socio-political and economic problems operating at national levels in Zimbabwe (Kozanayi et al. 2023). The writing illuminates the robustness of ACM at the local level and the complications that arise as geographical and institutional scale increase.

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*Xi Jinping and China's fight against the COVID-19: China's strategic construction and interpretation of its global health crisis discourse.*

President Xi Jinping's relevant statements on epidemic prevention and control and economic and social development are not only the latest achievements in improving China's crisis discourse system, but also point out the direction for the in-depth construction of "Chinese characteristics" crisis discourse. Taking President Xi Jinping's public speeches on epidemic prevention and control and economic and social development as the analysis text, on the basis of analyzing the limitations of the western cutting-edge cognitive pragmatic theory-approximation theory, combined with China's anti-epidemic strategy and China's traditional political culture Based on its own discourse background, such as the leader's thoughts on governing the country, and the social system with Chinese characteristics, a new "convergence" discourse analysis framework is constructed to further reveal the characteristic discourse strategies presented by the above-mentioned crisis discourse. The Chinese leader has successfully inspired the Chinese people and the national government to

"help each other, overcome difficulties, and overcome the epidemic" through the convergent strategic discourse of the three dimensions of psychology, welfare, and value.

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*The Asian way – negotiating border disputes with fists and sticks ? The case of India and China*

China's Ambassador to the USA, Hu Shi, famously said in 1938, 'India conquered and dominated China culturally for 20 centuries without ever having to send a single soldier across her border.' In 1955, the year Bandung conference of nonaligned countries took place, Indians and Chinese were shouting slogans of Hindi-Chini bhai bhai (India and China are brothers) during the visit of Chinese premier Zhou Enlai to India, and a year earlier both the countries had signed Panchsheel or five principles of peaceful coexistence. Was it a policy paradox or an inexplicable puzzle that the two civilizational states went to war in less than a decade after they signed Panchsheel? In 1963, Pakistan ceded a part of Kashmir to China and later years witnessed growing China-Pakistan friendship and the building of Pakistan's nuclear capability with Chinese support. One could clearly see a tussle between principles of idealism – that India and China share border and cultural and historical ties, hence natural allies –, and realism – that border dispute, geopolitical interests in the Indo-Pacific and different equations with the US have made them rivals.

One could also witness a new trend, particularly in the last few decades, how both the countries, while negotiating their differences, build on their complementarities. For example, despite the border dispute, both the countries have avoided war since 1962 while substantially increasing economic relations, collaborating in multilateral forums like SCO and BRICS, and nurturing global south identity. The border skirmishes in the past few years witnessed the use of fists and sticks, not conventional weapons of war. Has it something to do with the Asian way of building relations – shelving major disputes to the future while focusing on present complementarities? The paper explores answers to this question.

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*Critical studies on the built environment of the recently rising globalized asian states. Specific cases in Indonesia, China, and India.*

It has been proven by social theories that architecture and infrastructure as material phenomena manifest the social in its various social theoretical categories, such as societal structures, institutions, dynamics, events, networks, actors and others. This paper attempts to identify specific spatial development projects in some rising Asian states in their relationship to the surrounding societal dynamics, by asking the following questions: What are the material embodiment of the "rise" of some Asian states, in terms of architecture, infrastructure, or generally spatial development projects?

What are the mechanism of the social with regards to globalization which engenders the mentioned spatial projects? Which actors and social networks contribute the most to its realization, and how? Which geopolitical narrative underlies the spatial development projects? Why do the spatial development projects in the chosen Asian states harvest societal and theoretical resistance, and what do they have to offer? The global architecture and architecture sociological approach are deployed to pick different projects in different

countries and analyze them within a coherent social theoretical construction. The political economy of globalization with regards to the Western-led "unilateral structural adjustment" of the world in multi-disciplinary terms would be deployed to comprehend the neoliberal mechanism of architecture production as the dominant generator of the spatial development projects in some Asian states. The selected spatial development projects, having similar typologies, such as high-rise office and others, with high degree of similarity in the architectural style and aesthetics, serve as evidence to the rather Western-oriented and capital-driven spatial projects in the rising Asian states.

This paper finally delivers the critique towards this tendency by, on the one hand, referencing the earlier wave of the rise of Asian states in the mid of the 20th century which rather produced more geopolitically critical, plural and culturally-anchored spatial development projects, than the nowadays' capital and investment led ones, and on the other hand by mentioning the emerging alternative architecture theories with regards to a more sensible architecture.

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*Disease prevention as a strategic and comprehensive effort in sustainable development*

The development progress that has been achieved as a whole has influenced various developments in human life. Improved infrastructure conditions and the development of medical and health technology have led to a decrease in mortality and birth rates. This resulted in a change in the age structure of the population, and a change in age structure followed by an increase in life expectancy which brought the population structure towards the structure of the old age population. The 2020 population census reported that Indonesia's population is 270,203,917 people with a composition of almost 54% are millennials and generation-Z, and as many as 10.88% are post-gen-Z generations. These three groups are potential capital to achieve the sustainable development goals by 2030 provided that they are healthy groups.

The quality of Indonesia's population shows improvement every year. This can be seen from the Human Development Index (HDI) which shows an increase. Globally, Indonesia's HDI in 2020 is ranked 116th. However, when compared to other ASEAN countries, Indonesia's HDI achievement is still lagging behind. The cause of Indonesia's HDI lagging behind is the quality of education and life expectancy which is still low. Quality of the people encourages development to get a better impact. Therefore, Indonesia's development must be population-centered.

Sustainable development is an effort to prosper a more comprehensive society by involving more countries, both developed and developing countries. Efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals target are a national development priority, which requires synergy of planning policies at the national level and at the provincial and district / city levels. Indonesia is the fourth most populous country in the world, with a population of about 270 million people. The multiethnic archipelagic nation, Indonesia's geography and vast population complicate efforts to solve health problems, strengthen health systems, achieve universal health coverage (UHC), and meet sustainable development goal targets by 2030.

Global Health Estimates data from WHO shows that of the ten highest causes of death in Indonesia in 2019, six of them are non-communicable diseases. The highest disease ranked first was stroke with 131.8 deaths per 100,000 population. The second rank is ischemic heart disease with 95.68 deaths per 100,000 population, and followed by diabetes mellitus with 40.78 deaths per 100,000 population. The six main risk factors for DALYs in Indonesia in 2019

are high blood pressure, tobacco use, dietary risk, high fasting plasma glucose, high BMI, and malnutrition in children and mothers. High blood pressure and tobacco use were among the top five risk factors across the province. Therefore, it is very important to identify risk factors for these diseases so that we can take appropriate preventive measures, maintain health, and reduce the risk of serious diseases to improve public health.

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*BRICS plus: shaping the new multilateral world. Opportunities under the chairmanship of Russia 2024*

This 2024 will be a crucial year for BRICS's future. On 1st January five more countries joined the formation and other more countries are showing the same interest, witnessing that BRICS is strengthening its role in the international order. BRICS, over the years, has been committed in widening its cooperation to establish a more equitable international system, aiming to give further relevance to the so called "Global South"; now, under the presidency of Russia, BRICS is called to shape what they want to become in order to realize their vision. The process is still ongoing: the Author presents useful cognitive elements as a contribution to an adequate evaluation of the conditions and terms of its possible evolution.

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*Collective memory and the dynamics of social movements in Iran*

This research delves into the complex interplay between collective memory and social movements in Iran, exploring how historical events, cultural narratives, and shared experiences influence the genesis and evolution of social activism. By examining key movements such as the Green Movement and recent protest movements, the study aims to unravel how collective memories, encompassing historical grievances, cultural identity, and socio-political milestones, shape the strategies, ideologies, and resilience of these movements. This research investigates the impact of COVID-19 on collective memory and women's freedom movements in Iran. It explores how the pandemic, as a significant historical event, has influenced social activism, particularly in relation to women's rights. The study examines how COVID-19 has reshaped social narratives and community mobilization, focusing on digital media's role in amplifying women's voices and experiences during this period. This analysis aims to provide a nuanced understanding of how pandemic-induced changes have affected the strategies and resilience of women's movements in Iran's complex socio-political landscape.

It considers the role of collective memory in mobilizing communities, fostering solidarity, and shaping the collective consciousness that underpins social movements. Additionally, this proposal seeks to understand how contemporary digital media platforms contribute to the formation and dissemination of these collective memories, potentially reshaping the landscape of social activism in Iran. The research extends into a detailed examination of how digital media platforms like social media have become instrumental in the creation and spread of collective memories in Iran. It explores the digital landscape as a conduit for memory, protest, and activism, particularly focusing on how these platforms enable the proliferation of narratives that might otherwise be marginalized or suppressed.

This aspect of the study highlights the modern complexities of memory formation and dissemination in an increasingly connected world, where digital spaces play a critical role in shaping public discourse and mobilizing social movements.

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*Fashion and Gender: Reconciliation of patriarchal culture on hijab practices in Surabaya*

Women wearing a hijab in Indonesia today can be seen everywhere and start to group themselves based on their hijab styles. Applying the theory of fashion and gender, this research analyses Muslim women and their hijabs in patriarchal society in order to determine how they pass their process of wearing a hijab in a family boundary as a daughter, a daughter in law, a sister, a wife, and a mother. There are twenty-five women from different groups in Surabaya are used as data. In depth interviews are used as a technique of data collection. This research shows that these women confess that they themselves decide to wear a hijab. However, interestingly, the comments and suggestions from their fathers (in Law), spouses, and sons are entailed in the process of wearing the hijab. In other words, these women reconcile the patriarchal culture with their hijab practices.

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*Effects of frequent forest fires in South Asia with special reference to Sri Lanka*

Forest Fires have been a regular disaster throughout the dense forest regions of various nations in South Asia. Sri Lanka has been one of them. In 2016 the island nation reported the forest fire damages of 2884 hectares of forest resources all around the inland, the highest ever. This research paper analyzes the causes of frequent fires in Sri Lanka since the last decade and also envisages the necessary strategies to curb them while looking into the disastrous effects on development policies of the nation. It begins with an introduction of forest fires in entire South Asia in general with a focus on Sri Lanka in particular underlying its causes. Second, it explores the relationship between forest fire and climate change in Sri Lanka. Third, it identifies the forest fire vulnerable area for climate change. Fourth, it discusses the major developmental activities in its economy as to how forest fires have impaired them. Last, it concludes with the environmental measures that are being implemented to curb them and reduce the intensity of global warming. The methodology used for the study is qualitative and analytical and includes mostly secondary sources ie. research articles and commentaries based on Sri Lanka and some primary sources ie UN reports on Sri Lanka and reports of NGO's based in the island.

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*Cyber diplomacy and international law in the contemporary global politics*

Cyber diplomacy has gained prominence in the post Covid-19 era due to the risk posed to security, defense, military, and business circles by the rise in digitization and the cyber-attacks by the hackers disabling, paralyzing, and extracting the crucial government, non-government, business, private and personal data of personnel. Sometimes the financial information leads to the bankruptcy of an individual, agency, or organization against whom it is pertained via the cyber-attacks obscuring data by illegal confiscation by the computer-based network attack on businesses and government sites. Hence forces governments to formulate their own cyber policy for cybersecurity. Moreover, the outreach of the domain is regulated by law as countries engage on digital platforms, e-diplomacy, and virtual setups which in itself brings huge difficulties like the threat of cyberespionage, surveillance for attaining the crucial inputs, the risk of economic facilitation to the non-state actors, bring the attention of regularization of the domain under the international law. The severity at which countries, organizations, and institutions deal with the challenges enforced by the digital domain for securing cyberspace needs cooperation on various levels which can be enforced via cyber diplomacy. The absence of no ready-made international rules for the regularization of cyberspace- except the information communication technologies by distinct countries makes it obvious for countries to cooperate with nations to defeat the hackers and cooperate with each other on digital diplomacy due to military and financial connotations attached to it. Such deliberations make cyber diplomacy a major goal of the security and foreign policy of many countries. The proposed paper seeks to analyze international law's applicability in creating a conducive environment for cyber governance and personal data protection.

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*21st century belongs to Asia but problems persist*

The 21st century is destined to become the "Asian Century." Asia, home to more than half of the world's population .Fast becoming the hub of global economic activity, innovation, and manufacturing, the triumvirate of India, China and Japan is the fulcrum of unparalleled economic potential and value, driving the region's growth and influence. According to the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Asian share of global GDP is predicted to reach 52 percent by 2050. Looking back at the less publicized global history , China and India were the world's largest economies in 1870. The proposed paper will highlight the significance of the unprecedented development of Asia since the beginning of 21st century. However, the nations in the Asian continent are facing paramount socio-economic and political challenges which eclipses their ranking on the emerging world order. The proposed paper will primarily focus on the following subthemes.

1. Changing parameters of the new world order at the dawn of the 21st century
  2. Massive economic development of some Asian countries and the emergence of Asian tigers.
  3. A large number of medium and small Asian nations suffer from malnutrition, rampant poverty and depletion of natural resources due to adverse climate conditions.
  4. Major challenges of the 21st century and efforts by Asian nations to address these challenges.
  5. Conclusion.
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*US elections, Taiwan Issue after Lai's win and the war in Ukraine as challenges for Asian rise.*

After the third PDP candidate won in the recent Taiwan presidential elections, geopolitical tensions in the Taiwan Straits will not get less dangerous. On the contrary, it will represent a considerable challenge ahead of the US presidential elections. It will demand a lot of wisdom and restraint from both sides of the Straits, while we can expect constant falling from the US side. PR China will have to protect its sovereignty and great power dignity while counterbalancing aggressive provocations and economic war.

Israel's total war against Palestinians in Gaza and attack on several neighbouring countries and militant groups, backed and coordinated with the US, threatens to spread and transform into a much more dangerous war, destroying previous peace initiatives and economic prospects. Distraught Middle East and South Asia turned into areas of destruction and instability instead of connectivity and prosperous gathering through various initiatives.

Developments on the front lines in Ukraine and objective estimations of future advances, with the mobilization of the European NATO members, cause and express the anxiety of the global hegemon losing its clout in every corner of the planet but ever more eager to dominate at any cost. Such a moment in history carries enormous danger. It seriously hinders positive development from the BRICS and SCO enlargements, BRI, and similar powerful South-South initiatives that suit Asia's and global South developmental needs.

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*Rising female participation in labor force in India*

The rising female participation in the Indian labor force is a dynamic phenomenon emblematic of societal and economic evolution. The shift is propelled by multifaceted factors, prominently including enhanced educational opportunities, changing perceptions of gender roles, and increased urbanization. Educational empowerment has been a catalyst, equipping women with skills and knowledge necessary for a diverse range of professional pursuits. Urbanization acts as a facilitator, creating environments conducive to employment and challenging traditional constraints.

This surge is not confined to specific sectors, demonstrating a broadening landscape of skills and expertise. Beyond economic implications, it underscores the imperative of gender equality, challenging historical stereotypes that restricted women's career choices. Despite evident progress, persistent challenges such as gender pay gaps, low participation in formal/service sector and societal expectations necessitate ongoing attention.

Policymakers and businesses are increasingly recognizing the importance of fostering inclusive workplaces, acknowledging the diverse contributions of women to economic growth and innovation. The evolving landscape reflects a collective commitment to dismantling barriers and realizing the full potential of the female workforce in India. Sustaining and enhancing this momentum requires continued initiatives aimed at addressing disparities and establishing a foundation for equitable and sustainable development.

Keywords: Educational Empowerment, Sustainable Development, Gender Equality, Gender Pay Gaps Female Workforce

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*The westphalian BRICS strategy*

The BRICS Group promotes and protects the collective identity of its member States, enhancing their territorial integrity, independence, unity, and equality, following the Westphalian identity model, as opposed to the Glocalist transboundary model.

The BRICS pursue a policy of cooperation with the main international subjects, such as UN, the WTO, the G20 summit, involving the emerging countries in the process; on the economic level, their development projects and investment plans are based on pragmatic cooperation and refer to the “win-win” principle, aiming to recover the primary role of the real over the financial economy, suggesting the creation of a monetary system more consistent with inclusive policies. Having in mind this cooperation model, the Author presents knowledge elements useful to clarify the implications linked to the confrontation between the Westphalian and Glocalist identity models

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*An Oligarchic-Global imperative as the Neo-Eurasianist proposal for the New World Order*

This paper presents an overview of Neo-Eurasianism by testing the argument that Neo-Eurasianism is an ideology and a geostrategic plan of global dimensions. Ideologically, Neo-Eurasianism constitutes an amalgam of incoherent ideological streams that can be located in the leftist spectrum. Strategically, Neo-Eurasianism has the ambition of re-creating a Eurasian empire under Russian hegemony, with the final revolutionary mission of restructuring the entire international system. Whereas the official objective of Neo-Eurasianism is to produce a “multipolar world,” this paper demonstrates that an oligarchic-global order is the real objective at stake. By shedding light upon the ideological and strategic aspects of Neo-Eurasianism, the paper also explains the relations between Neo-Eurasianism and conceptions of Russian history, Christianity, Conservatism, and science (the geopolitical approach), having concluded that Neo-Eurasianism can be labeled an outcome of a revolutionary mentality.

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*Urban Rural rebalance, tool for sustainable territorial development*

There is no doubt that a profound change is underway in the entire global geopolitical scenario in which the countries of the global south of Asia, Africa and Latin America are taking on a growing role in all global offices and organizations. This involves the inevitable



revision of paradigms and models in all sectors imposed by the countries of the global north since the end of the Second World War.

In this rapidly evolving context, the challenges for effective change aimed at sustainable global development based on the principles enunciated by the conference: peace, justice, solidarity and diversity, concern different closely interrelated sectors and fields that require an integrated and holistic approach extended to all continents, with the aim of defining strategies and identifying the most suitable interventions to achieve the objectives.

Among the sectors of greatest importance there is certainly that relating to Ecology (built and natural environment, architecture, urbanization, ruralisation, climate change, health, demography, migration in which some themes such as urbanization and territorial rebalancing do not receive sufficient attention.

In fact, even now there is a lack of clear and shared strategies to mitigate the negative trends of unbridled urbanization and the abandonment of rural and marginal areas with the consequent negative impacts on climate change and use of natural resources. The objectives set by Agenda 2030 are now largely out of reach and it is necessary to launch an energetic initiative on a global scale for sustainable urban/rural development.

As expressed in the recent AFRASI conference and in various previous Rise of Asia conferences, this action must and can arise more rapidly from emerging countries, in Asia in particular, where these phenomena are growing, with the prospect of defining and implementing a renewed model of settlement as a tool for effective territorial rebalancing aimed at sustainable development and environmental protection. IS TIME TO ACT NOW !

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*The asian giant rivalry and its implication in the South Asian region*

With China and India growing economic and military power, both nations have expanded their spheres of influence and increasingly overlapped. It became another source of tension besides border disputes. One such region was the least integrated region of South Asia, which India considered its sphere of influence. For China, it served as the barrier or bridge in the realization of President Xi's signature foreign policy, the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), in which China has invested heavily. Taking the opportunity of China's rise, many South Asian nations have built close ties with China. On the other hand, India considered Chinese activities in the region a threat to its dominance, which led the relationship between the Asian giants into a security dilemma and strategy dilemma. Meanwhile, India has reinvented its foreign policy in South Asia under the "Neighbourhood First Policy" to prevent the South Asian nations from falling into China's hands. Whenever South Asian nations tried to play China's card concerning India, it created a problem between India and China and between India and South Asian countries. It created interesting geopolitics in the region, both positive and negative. So, this paper aims to study the implications of India and China's engagement in South Asia concerning the military, economy, and wide-ranging challenges of regional integration and cooperation.

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*Worldwide neighbourhood network and Baconian-Cartesian models*

The work explores neighbouring cities like Samarkand and Bukhara that intriguingly merge global Sufi 'centrality' with community structures throughout their rich history. This historical legacy indicates a shift away from the constraints of the widely accepted Baconian-Cartesian paradigm, which promotes the belief that every problem has a logical solution and favours individualism over community ties in the pursuit of relentless advancement.

These neighbour-cities' ancient communitarian fabric does not call for modern, rational institutionalisation but rather for the preservation of humaneness. Within this context, globalisation could be perceived as an opportunity to revive the Platonic mission of interweaving ontology and epistemology and act as a channel for nurturing a constructive awareness of historical and present happenings. This consciousness benefits individuals, communities, and interconnected community networks alike. This perspective underscores the need for varied integrations of knowledge and experiences among neighbours while acknowledging their continuous state of flux.

Reflecting on this topic, the Sufi philosophy that argues that nothing happens in isolation provides valuable insights. The discourse about the Global neighbourhood aligns with the Sufi concept of Oneness - Wahdat al Wujud. It represents the acquisition of worldly wisdom through symbolic harmony between public and community celebrations and inner spirituality, a world where residents of Samarkand (Samarkandi) and residents of Bukhara (Bukhari) live, appreciate their own worth, and respect their neighbours.

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*The Bandung spirit and Philippines' emerging status as a hub for African and Arab refugees*

The Southeast Asian nations were nearly fully represented in the 18th to 24th April, 1955 Asian-African Conference held in Bandung, Indonesia. Those present included Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Philippines, Thailand, and the then two Vietnamese States of Democratic Republic of Vietnam and State of Vietnam. Of these nations, only Cambodia, Philippines and Timor-Leste (formerly part of Indonesia) are signatories to both the 1951 UN Conventions and the 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons. This raises a number of fundamental questions as they apply to the Communiqué of the 1955 Bandung Conference. In addition to posing these fundamental questions, the present paper will explore the extent to which the accession of the Republic of the Philippines' to the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees and Stateless persons is gradually transforming the country into a hub for African and Arab refugees. This will be done through the analysis of extant Government policies and laws relating to refugees and stateless persons hosted by the country. What makes the refugee policies of the Republic of the Philippines unique when compared to similar policies in the Americas and Europe?

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The resurgence of Asia as a potent force in the global arena presents a complex tapestry of geopolitical recalibrations, socio-economic shifts, and transcontinental partnerships. At the heart of this intricate web lies the Middle East, with Iran emerging as a central protagonist. This paper seeks to unpack Iran's evolving strategy in the Middle Eastern realm and assess its broader implications for the rise of Asian hegemony.

Historically rooted in the confluence of diverse civilizations, Iran's aspirations in the contemporary geopolitical landscape are multi-dimensional. Its vast energy reserves, primarily oil and gas, provide not just economic leverage but also a strategic tool in its diplomatic engagements. The significance of the Chabahar port, developed in collaboration with India, epitomizes Iran's vision of becoming a crucial link in the region's connectivity frameworks, bridging South Asia with Central Asia and Europe.

Beyond hard infrastructure, Iran's regional strategy is characterized by a sophisticated interplay of alliances. Its support for non-state actors, like Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthi rebels in Yemen, showcases Tehran's ability to shape ground realities beyond its borders. Simultaneously, Iran's intricate relationships with major Asian stakeholders, particularly China and Russia, are emblematic of its adeptness in balancing its interests with those of the continent's heavyweights.

One cannot overlook Iran's nuclear ambitions when dissecting its regional aspirations. Rather than being a mere pursuit of defense capabilities, it underscores Iran's yearning for recognition, strategic parity, and a prominent seat at the high table of Asian geopolitics.

In conclusion, this paper posits that understanding Iran's strategy in the Middle East, laden with nuances and intricacies, is indispensable for comprehending the broader dynamics at play in the renaissance of Asia. It emphasizes that the future trajectory of Asia, with its multipolar and multicivilizational order, will be significantly influenced by the strategic choices Tehran makes today.

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*China's Global Economic Governance Framework and Implementation Path*

Economic globalization is an objective requirement for the development of social productivity and an corollary result of scientific and technological progress, which in turn has further promoted the flow of commodities and capital, the spread of science and technology, civilization, and the exchanges between peoples of various countries. Acknowledging that economic globalization can provide a strong impetus to the world economy is China's basic attitude toward globalization. However, globalization is not formed based on equality and mutual benefit among all classes, nationalities, and countries but is dominated by certain countries and individual interest groups. While affirming the irreversibility of the overall trend of economic globalization and the fact that the benefits outweigh the disadvantages, China proposed that "we must uphold a vision of global governance featuring extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits, and actively promote the democratization of global governance rules". "Democratization" means that all countries, no matter big or small, strong or weak, rich or poor, have the right to participate in international affairs on an equal footing, and ensure that all countries have equal rights, opportunities and rules in international economic cooperation. The key to achieving equality is to demonstrate the new reality of the world economy, increase the

representation and voice of emerging market countries and developing countries, and promote the formation of a fair and efficient global financial governance patterns an open and transparent global trade and investment governance pattern, a green and low-carbon global energy governance pattern, and an inclusive and interconnected global development governance pattern.

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*India and the Rise of Asia: navigating future challenges and prospects*

This abstract explores the dynamic landscape of India within the context of the broader Rise of Asia. As India emerges as a key player in the global arena, this analysis delves into the multifaceted factors propelling its growth and influence. Examining economic, geopolitical, and technological dimensions, the abstract outlines the challenges and prospects that India faces on its trajectory toward becoming a prominent global player. It also addresses the implications of this rise on regional and international dynamics, offering insights into the evolving geopolitical landscape and the potential collaborative avenues that may shape the future of Asia.

India has played a significant role in the rise of Asia through its contributions to trade, investment, technology, and soft power culture. In terms of trade, India has emerged as a key player, fostering economic collaborations with various Asian nations. Indian businesses have expanded their reach, contributing to the region's overall economic growth.

India's investment in technology has been noteworthy, with a thriving IT sector that has not only fuelled domestic growth but also positioned India as a global technology hub. The country's advancements in areas like software development and space exploration have garnered international recognition.

Culturally, India's soft power has been influential, with Bollywood films, traditional arts, and diverse cuisine gaining popularity across Asia and beyond. This cultural exchange has facilitated stronger diplomatic ties and enhanced India's global image.

In summary, India's multifaceted contributions to trade, technology, and soft power have played a vital role in the ascent of Asia on the global stage. The paper concludes by highlighting the need for strategic foresight and adaptive policies to navigate the complexities that come with India's ascent and the broader transformative shifts in the Asian geopolitical paradigm.

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*Theme-gender : Women, war and peace in the context of Asia*

In Asia's tumultuous history marked by conflicts, we aim to delve into the complex dynamics surrounding women's experiences in times of war. Shifting beyond mere victimhood narratives, we seek to scrutinize the nuanced oscillation between vulnerability and agency exhibited by women. In navigating the complex terrain of conflict, women embody resilience and resourcefulness, demanding a serious examination of their roles in shaping the narrative amidst the challenging landscapes of Asian warfare of multiple kinds and forms. We seek to dissect these complexities with depth and intellectual rigor.

Historically, a patriarchal theoretical tradition has dominated the discourses surrounding security, peace, and conflict in Asia. We endeavor to contextualize this discourse and critically scrutinize its inherently flawed foundations. In recognising the deeply gendered nature of war and peace, a feminist and egalitarian perspective becomes imperative, calling for democratizing security and peace agendas.

In the context of the present-day conflict- like Israeli settler colonialism and the current war in Palestine, the Russia-Ukraine conflict, the Sri Lankan genocide in Jaffna, the conflict in Kashmir, the ethnic tensions in north-eastern Indian states such as Assam and Nagaland- the prevailing narratives of war disproportionately impact women. Unfortunately, mainstream discourse tends to either sideline or entirely overlook the perspectives of disempowered women in these conflicts. We seek to transcend the limitations of mainstream narratives by exploring the intricate operation of gender hierarchies in conflict settings and the resilient resistance exhibited, particularly within the spaces created by disempowered women and those unjustly denied to them.

Moreover, beyond the immediate impacts, we aim to delve into the nuanced languages of resistance and empowerment that emerge in Asia's complex fabric of conflict settings. We argue that understanding these languages is crucial for unraveling the depth of women's experiences in times of conflict. We are also convinced that till now there is a missing role of women in peace making negotiations and varied related processes, and therefore needs to be discussed and engaged with. By shedding light on women's multifaceted roles in conflict, we aim to contribute to a more comprehensive understanding of the intersections between gender, conflict, and peace.

Furthermore, the analysis extends to the broader consequences of conflict on women's everyday lives, including economic disparities, displacement, and the challenges of post-conflict reconstruction. Examining how conflict alters societal structures and Gender roles is essential for crafting effective and inclusive post-conflict strategies. In essence, we aim not only to amplify the voices of disempowered women in Asia but also to provide a robust framework for redefining security and peace agendas through a feminist lens, recognising the urgency of an inclusive and nuanced approach to addressing the complexities of conflicts in the region.

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*Navigating the impact of artificial intelligence on employment sectors: challenges, policies, and conservation*

The advancement of Artificial Intelligence (AI) harbors the potential to disrupt diverse employment sectors. AI and digital innovations have seamlessly woven into the fabric of our daily lives, steering the global economy onto a new trajectory. The proliferation of automated machines, sophisticated software tools, and even futuristic automated vehicles poses a formidable threat to the existing labor force, which stands vulnerable to replacement by these technological marvels.

Within the framework of a capitalist economy, the inevitable consequence for the workforce lies in the scarcity of employment opportunities within the labor market. This necessitates a meticulous examination of job security, prompting an evaluation of the measures that policymakers are implementing to secure the livelihoods of workers affected by these changes. A pervasive assumption prevails that sustained dependence on AI development may introduce additional challenges to the employment sector. While technological innovations undoubtedly propel society forward, a mounting concern surrounds the potential impediments they might pose.

The paper will seek to delve into crucial aspects of various industries, with a keen emphasis on elucidating the pivotal role of AI in the policy-making and conservation process.

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*Diversity models: Asia vs. Europe*

The work I wish to present was made possible by an Erasmus Plus Jean Monnet grant in 2017 for the project 'India-Europe Relations and Diversity Management'. Over a three-year period and thereafter, we examined areas like gender, ethnicity/caste and religious diversity in order to understand what kinds of issues prevalent in the Indian and the European contexts are generally presented as challenges within diversity studies.

We began by thinking about the kind of representation these Indian issues of diversity receive in Europe. However, after some time I was struck that 'diversity' and its study itself, was framed from a European/Western perspective. Diversity is perceived as a "problem" to be solved by the State in the European/Western context. Therefore, legislation and policy building become paramount. However, in the East, diversity is very much part of the social ethos of practically every Asian society. Thus, problems that occur in Asia that are attributed to problems of "diversity" very often have a very different root cause.

My work on at least two such areas, caste and communalism, reveals that colonial conceptions have played a very significant role in formulating issues in India (and Asia) and that colonial lens has been shaped by a European experience of seeking and gaining homogeneity at State levels by the 18th century and thereafter, facing challenges of 'diversity' largely due to immigration issues that date to the 20th century and thereafter.

I would like to examine in my paper whether 'diversity studies' would look very different from an Asian perspective.

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*The influence of the global south on new geopolitical dynamics: focus on the Indo Pacific*

The objective of this research is to analyze India's influence and approach on the Global South and how India's stance in this regard shapes Global South impact on new geopolitical dynamics. The study will examine how Global South countries, emphasizing on India's foreign policy and non-alignment policy and taking India as a remarkable, meaningful case study, challenge traditional power structures, forge alliances, and navigate the changing global order. Additionally, it will investigate the impact of the Global South on traditional international organizations and the international community, as well as the Western approach to these changes. This research will also explore how different foreign strategies or policies pursued by countries like India can shape joint actions within the Global South. Moreover, it will consider the implications of these dynamics for international relations theories, taking into account the evolving dynamics of multilateralism and minilateralism in the Southeast Asian, Asia-Pacific, and Indian Ocean regions. The study will particularly focus on India's foreign policy, specifically its non-alignment foreign policy stance, and its role within the Global South. A specific emphasis will be placed on how India

acts as a facilitator for Western countries, Europe, and the United States to implement policies in the Global South, with a particular focus on the Indo-Pacific region.

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*The impact of the expansion of BRICS on the foreign policy of the European Union: new challenges for global governance?*

The year 2023 concluded with a true epochal moment: the expansion of the BRICS with the addition of five new members (Argentina declined the invitation due to Milei's pro-US government). This event is of vital importance because, with the entry of these new members, the BRICS implement an expansion strategy that not only increases the population, but also allows the group to wield significant decision-making power over strategic resources such as oil.

From a more strictly political and diplomatic perspective, the BRICS plus strategy is proving, despite the obvious internal differences among BRICS countries, to be an important means of expanding towards other countries in the Global South that have had, and still have, little voice in international affairs (think for example of Iran, which is also a victim of US sanctions).

Obviously, this state of affairs should have some effect on the foreign policies of another global actor, namely the European Union (EU). The latter is currently undergoing a significant crisis due to various internal and external issues, and is struggling to find a decisive role in global governance. The EU promotes multilateralism, dialogue, democratic participation, and its history and its Treaties have been efforts in this direction (at least until the 2008 crisis, followed by the subsequent pandemic, and of course at least until Brexit). However, it is clear that so far the EU has not formulated a concrete foreign policy towards the BRICS as a bloc, but has only promoted "strategic relations" with individual member states of the group. Moreover, these relations are often conditioned by a too close dependence (at least in terms of security) on the United States.

In this speech, we therefore ask two things: 1) What effect would the expansion of the BRICS have on the European Union?; 2) Whether the European Union, by changing its approach to these "emerging powers," can play a more significant role in global governance.

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*BRICS approach towards just energy/climate transition.*

Although the concept of just energy/climate transition is becoming more and more prominent in the agenda of key international institutions, including UNFCCC, G20, ILO, its definition remains unclear and contested and there is no consensus on the matter. Without proper articulation on the international level the concept can not be fully operationalized. But there is growing demand from the developing countries to operationalize the term as it lies in the basis of international cooperation mainly in the fields of financing, technology transfer, international trade. BRICS consists of several major economies and GHG emitters, whose policy and success in achieving the climate goals and overall decarbonization will define the possibility to reach Paris goals on the global level. BRICS-5 represents one of the two major cores in G20, G7 being the other one. The concept of just transition returned to the

G20 agenda with the presidency of developing countries (Indonesia, India, Brazil and South Africa in 2025). Consolidated BRICS position on the issue of just transition can help promote the interests of developing countries in the G20 and in other fora, especially after the enlargement. At the same time, there are diverging opinions of the BRICS members themselves on several issues, related to just transition, for example, different approaches to count emissions (historically accumulated, emissions per capita, emissions per unit of GDP). BRICS members can agree on several important issues though, including on border adjustments, market access requirements, use of carbon offsets, standards for climate projects, net-zero industry subsidies, more favorable conditions in critical raw materials trade.

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*Promoting peace by using poetry and Indonesia local wisdom: a journey of celebrating peacemaking in Paris Peace Forum 2019.*

Poetry has also been used to preach goodness and promote peaceful. Poetry gives us the image of a peaceful world that can be replaced with that of violence and war. It makes the listeners and readers feel and see with novel acuteness and awareness. Poetry is used to create peace in people's hearts and minds and believes that poetry is transformative; through their words, poets create an alternative vision of peace in the context of war. It helps transform the individual, thus paving the way for social transformation. From the discussion mentioned above, it is clear that poets, through their poetry, exercise a significant influence over society and contribute to the transformation of society from war to peace. However, little has been known about poets promoting peace in conflict -existence. Evidence of such instances exists in the early days of Islam's rise in the world in the 7th century, for which poetry provided a steady path. Using Poetry to promoting peace and captured part of local wisdom in Indonesia as one of journey for writer to speak up and share ideas in High Level Meeting in Paris Peace Forum 2019 with her book "The Peace Message: Thousand Poetry for Peace to The World" as Collection of Globe Peace Forum 2019 in Grande Halle de la Vallette, France' and inspiration of one of Contributor World Globe Peace Forum 2019 (Annual Report Paris Peace Forum. As Indonesia also has many conflicts and potential conflicts because diversity religion, ethnics, race etc. that inspired to write hundred poems to promote peace and meet up and sharing many world leader, peace activist among the state. It was a model of celebrating peacemaking from Indonesia to Europe that Emmanuel Macron (France's President) and Antonio Gutierrez (secretary-general of the United Nations) also attended.

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*Climate change: India's Changing perspective as global South leader*

India's Changing perspective as global South leader has come a long way in multilateral context. From contesting GHG emissions requirements for Global South to take up leading responsibilities to ward off the attempts to divide global global north and global South and more importantly, take up responsibilities of 27 SubSaharan countries and seeking reforms at CoP platforms to take up cause of deprived economies.



Also the search for alternative energy. The path is focusing on per capita emissions convergence with global North and funding from South. Internally this may need more stern measures above and beyond electoral considerations. Contesting Global North perspectives needs following far more stern measures in Urban India as poorer regions in rural India eg Sunderbans being deprived of transportation system cannot be used for climate gains on issues like per capita emissions.

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*Ekistics elements as a form of sustainable local solidarity for women entrepreneurs in Surabaya Indonesia*

Ekistics element begins with the need of the community to obtain better living standards especially in the urban context. In this article we study the ekistics element in the urban context that has emerged in the local solidarity of women entrepreneurs at the community level in Surabaya. Surabaya is surrounded by settlement buildings that combine with ancient buildings, local wisdom, cultural traditions, and residing traditions that are maintained. In the urban context, the women entrepreneurs' viability and adaptation conditions are based on the principles of ekistics elements in people, society, nature, and networks. Depending on the elements contributing most to the viability of women entrepreneurs for generations over the last 50 years. Adaptation conditions are emphasized to understand urban context in order to find out the growth factors that occur. The results showed the growth of intergenerational and local solidarity expressed from women entrepreneurs. Local solidarity forms a social bond of affection that unites women entrepreneurs for sustaining cooperation leading toward economic factors. This study uses ekistics elements to see settlements in one large frame. Specifically, this study examines Surabaya in the urban context and circular economy sectors to examine their role in building sustainable and innovative businesses and supporting women entrepreneurs in adapting to local solidarity.

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*Palestine as a pivot for global positive change.*

How do we challenge colonialism and imperialism and create a better world? This question is discussed in context of seismic changes in Western Asia that threaten to destabilize the world. I argue that we have two choices. The first is sustainability and equality where the people live together based on human rights and justice. That includes recognizing the ethnic cleansing ongoing since 1948 and ensuring justice. This entails replacing an apartheid genocidal regime (witness Gaza) with a democratic secular state. The US would be required also to end its creation of endless wars in our region and allow a transformation to a multi-polar world where human rights are centered. The other choice of continuing US/Israel hegemony has shown itself to be damaging to all people of our region. The presentation will discuss positive steps that ALL people can take to achieve a peaceful prosperous future.

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*The role of public debt conversion and sustainable investment funds for the rise of AFRICA and ASIA*

The debt of developing countries in Africa and Asia is posing serious problems to its just rise in the world. While OECD countries continue with their policies at times not strong enough on sustainable development and enlarged BRICS declare a lot but do little in terms of concessional financing it is perceived as a paramount priority address a smart restructuring conversion of debt into something proactive and SDG aligned bringing jobs, SDG compliance and stability. A proposal is presented building on an initial proposal by the network of Civil Society Organisations for Development cooperation [www.LINK2007.org](http://www.LINK2007.org) called Release G20. The guideline for implementation now needs to land at Finance and development Ministers discussion for appropriate ownership. African Countries must do their political advocacy to induce and drive the discussion.

The author's experiences in blended finance and sustainable investments bring concrete proposals on how to engineer the proposal by private equity funds, by sovereign fund and how discussion in regional groupings could develop towards an aligned architecture.

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*Strategic change in the nature of India - Bhutan relation: an analysis*

The bilateral relation between India and Bhutan is a unique one. And they almost had a cordial relationship for a long time. This paper tries to analyze how the relationship between the two nations had a serious change over the past years. Bhutan had been an important part of changing the nature of Himalayan politics. Bhutan shares its border with the two Asian Giants that is India and China. And what makes Bhutan important to these two nations is that it plays a prominent role of being a buffer state, particularly to India's interest. India has provided a series of assistance to Bhutan in the areas of defense, infrastructure and communication, which has highly contributed to sovereignty and territorial integrity. India and Bhutan share a 699 km long border, which has been largely peaceful. However there have been some incidents of border incursion by Chinese forces in recent years. The Docket stand-off in 2017 was a major flashpoint in the India-China-Bhutan tri-juncture. The other factor that seriously affected India-Bhutanese relations is the increasing presence of China in Bhutan, particularly along the disputed border between Bhutan and China. India has been Bhutan's closet ally and has played a key role in protecting Bhutan's sovereignty and security. However, China's growing economic and military influence in the region poses a challenge to India's strategic interest in Bhutan.

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*The Bandung spirit and Philippines' emerging status as a hub for African and Arab refugees*

(see the abstract of NWAEZEIGWE)

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Abstract 1:

*Fisheries, food security and international collaboration in the production sharing contract (PSC) scheme*

Food Security has become a very serious issue for Indonesia. As one of the most populated countries in the world, with a current population of around 276 million people and will likely increase to more than 300 million in 2050, ensuring adequate food supplies for the whole nation is going to be a big challenge. Based on the GFSI (Global Food Security Index) data in 2022, Indonesia's index position is moderately lower than other neighboring countries. Comparing the average security index among Asia Pacific countries, Indonesia Food Security index is still below the neighboring countries' average index with a deficit of 3.2 point (60.2) from them. While the neighboring countries have a security index of 63.4.

Indonesia is an archipelago country, surrounded by oceans, as well as having the second longest shoreline in the world. Based on UNCLOS, an archipelago state has a Territorial Sea area, which includes the Continental Boundary Shelf and also the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The EEZ means the state has an extraordinary potential of marine and fishery resources for food security to improve Food Security. However, due to limited technological and human resources, as well as capital capabilities, Indonesia has not yet fully utilized EEZ to improve its food security. It has also been worsened by the illegal fishing and habit of most Indonesians for not consuming enough fishery products, since they mostly consume agricultural and farming (cattle and chicken) products.

There are some key elements of food security: the availability of safe, nutritious and culturally acceptable food, the physical and economic access to food, and the sustainability of food production. Consequently, the country has to take necessary steps, individually and through international cooperation, to the maximum of available resources, to progressively achieve the target of food security, in particular the fisheries product food. In other words, in order to improve food security and eradicate illegal fishing, Indonesia needs an international collaboration with neighboring countries as well as countries which have advanced technologies in fisheries (both capture and aqua-cultural fisheries) to optimize fishery production.

Since the 1960's until now and onward, Indonesia has had the experience in pioneering the Production Sharing Contract (PSC) scheme for exploration and exploitation of Oil and Gas resources. The Production Sharing Contract scheme has become the most suitable solution for Indonesia to fulfill the need of high investment for high technologies, high risk of management in the exploration, and production of hydrocarbons for energy security and state income. There have been more than 70 Countries in the world that are adopting this PSC Scheme. By implementing the PSC scheme, Indonesia is able to maintain sovereignty over its natural resources, as obligated by the Constitution. PSC scheme is possible and feasible to be implemented in the Fisheries Management in an international collaboration to upgrade the Food Security Index.

Abstract 2:

*Production sharing contrac: global collaborative solution, based on local community wisdom*

Post-World War II, numerous new countries emerged. They declared sovereignty over their territories, where their natural resources are located. They believe there will be no resources to be captured by the Colonialist (which used to be most of the western countries). Soon after their independence, the big problem appeared for the New Emerging countries. The main problem was the management of natural resources production (lack of management elements: Man, Money, Methods, and Market). When the Colonialist went away, there was no capital, no expertise, no business risk takers left behind and available to keep the production going, so that the natural resources production declined significantly.

Indonesia in the 1960's introduced a new scheme for oil exploration and exploitation, known as the Production Sharing Contract (PSC), in order to invite the companies back to operate in Indonesia, with the new spirit of a new independent country, mutual respect, and benefit. This new PSC Scheme positions Indonesia as the Natural Resources Owner, while the Companies shall be the Contractor(s). The Contractor(s), on one hand, shall bear all cost of exploration and exploitation and any risk related to the business and operation, and on the other, have the rights to get "reimbursement" (in kind/not in cash) that is commonly called as "Cost Recovery". The National Government (represented by the National State-Owned Company) has the right to approve or decline the budget and work program proposed by the Contractor when they consider the budget and/or the working program is unreasonable or may cause potential decrease of government take. PSC also guarantees that the National Government may not terminate and/or refuse to extend the Contract without reasonable and/or acceptable reason(s).

The PSC scheme was originally adopted from an Indonesian (Javanese Tradition) local custom in agricultural and fishing activities at that time. The landlord would make an agreement with the farmer(s) to plant rice on a field. The landlord shall bear no cost of the seed, fertilizer, and other expenditures for planting the rice, but having some share of the rice in the rice fields when it is harvested. A similar scheme is applied to the Fishery Sharing Agreement by the boat owner and the fishermen. The fishermen provide all costs of fishing operations such as the fuel, manpower, and other relevant costs, then both parties share the result of fishing in accordance with the agreement. By implementing the PSC, Indonesia has not only received production and income tax, but also assets and equipment transfer, as well as knowledge and experience transfer, so that thousands of Indonesian oil and gas experts are now working in various countries in the world.

Currently, the PSC scheme is applied by more than 70 Countries in the world for oil and gas resources management, such as Algeria, Qatar, Kazakhstan, Turkmenistan, India, Oman, Angola, Egypt, Brazil, Mexico and others.

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*Russia and Asia in a new reality: new scenarios*

Nowadays, Russia and Asia relations and cooperation depend on local and global developments, such as Russia and the "collective West" confrontation, China-US trade "wars", etc. Last decade, Russia's "turn to the East" has a fundamental bearing on the country's policy "to build closer ties" with Asian powers (Valdai Russia Asia Report, 2023) , and, finally, the way the challenges and threats Russia and Asia face are perceived .

In the 2010s, the Russian researchers presented the three main scenarios for Russia in Asia by 2037, depending on the regional and global trends: The Warring Kingdoms, Bonanza!, and La Belle Époque. The first scenario described the situation of military and political confrontation. The second and third scenarios were more positive, presenting the pictures of national development and state-to-state relations (Valdai Report, 2017).

In 2023, in a so-called New Reality, Asia's traditional pragmatism prevented a breakdown in relations, like what happened with Europe (South Korea stands as the exception here.)

The paper presents the results of the research of Russia's relations with Asian countries in a New reality (2022-2023) in comparison with the main ideas of the three scenarios for Russia in Asia. In a new scenario Russia could promote cooperation (economic, cultural, educational, etc.) whenever this meets the common interests of Asian countries (like it always was in Russia-Asia relations).

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*Accrediting Asia: narratives of comprehensive gender mainstreaming victories*

This article explores the metamorphic narratives of thriving gender mainstreaming initiatives across Asia, encapsulated in the title "Accrediting Asia: Narratives of Comprehensive Gender Mainstreaming Victories." Going beyond conventional wisdom, the quest uncovers global strategies that empower diverse communities. The case studies from India, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka outline how these initiatives are not restricted to just questioning the patriarchal structures but rather lengthen to raise capacities and manifest inclusivity.

The stories within this narrative underscore a fine comprehension of gender mainstreaming, accentuating its role in empowering both men and women for inclusive development. Through an unobstructed glass, the article unveils the triumphs achieved by contesting stereotypes, stimulating economic empowerment, and facilitating educational inclusivity. The victories attained in the case studies underline the crucial role of gender mainstreaming in transforming societal norms and fostering overall progress.

By knitting together these stories, "Accrediting Asia" illuminates the main essence of gender mainstreaming, outstripping its initial goals. It serves as a testimony to the power of panoramic strategies, illuminating the diverse pathways toward accomplishing equivalency in the Asian context. The article aspires to inspire a deeper understanding of the heterogeneous nature of gender mainstreaming and its vital role in creating a more unbiased and emancipated future for the varied communities across the Asian continent.

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*Women should have it All - Some deeper Insights and Reality Check*

The representation of women in STEM is very low almost in every region of the world. A 2020 World Bank report on the global trends indicating the participation of women and girls in STEM reported that even though the graduation rates in STEM are higher in women compared to men, women are less likely to undertake higher studies in STEM fields, particularly engineering, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and physics. It was also observed that women who study STEM fields are also less likely to enter into STEM careers and exit these careers earlier than male peers. Women in STEM fields were found to publish less and are also likely to be underpaid.

This drastic drop in women's participation in STEM jobs both in industry as well as research can be attributed to the current work culture and standards that are biased towards one gender.

The 9 am to 6 pm work standard culture does not provide ample opportunities for women to be able to balance between their care giving responsibilities and professional responsibilities and hence, most women have to leave work opportunities in favor of care giving responsibilities. The paucity of women in STEM jobs, especially research is not due to education inadequacy but because of stereotypical gendered work culture that result in majority of women to give upon their work aspirations in favor of motherhood and family responsibilities.

It is therefore imperative to develop new and inclusive working models that can help women with the flexibility to work from anywhere and anytime to balance their responsibilities, ambitions, and aspirations to enhance participation and partnerships of women in STEM jobs especially in research and development.

Moving away from conventional work model of 9 am to 6 pm, we need to create flexible work models in research and entrepreneurship enabling women to be able to balance both professional and family commitments.

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*Digital Indonesia: The rise of Indonesia's economy?*

This study intends to contribute theoretically and experimentally by defining new dynamic capabilities for digital transformation in the context of small and medium-sized agricultural businesses. The digital economy in Indonesia must be connected to the country's rapid internet adoption. The 2022 Indonesian Internet Profile report was released by the Indonesian Internet Service Providers Association (APJII). According to this research, Indonesia's internet penetration will reach 77.02% in 2021-2022. Internet penetration in Indonesia is increasing year after year. In 2018 the country's internet penetration was 64.8%, expected to rise to 73.7% in 2019-2020. Meanwhile, according to Internet World Stats, internet penetration in Indonesia was 73.7% in 2020, or 196.7 million people, and 76.8% in 2021, or 212.34 million people. In 2021-2022, there will be a rise of 3.1% or 15.64 million from the expected population of 276.36 million people, and there will be 210.03 million internet users in the country. In 2021, Indonesia will rank eighth in Southeast Asia regarding internet penetration. Currently, 12,500 villages in Indonesia are not linked to the internet, while 42,000 additional villages need to increase internet connectivity from roughly 82,000 villages. The next factor is e-commerce. E-commerce transactions in the country were worth IDR 266 trillion in 2020, IDR 403 trillion in 2021 (a 51.6% increase), and IDR 530 trillion in 2022 (a 31.4% increase). E-commerce is expected to continue to dominate Indonesia's digital economic map in 2030, contributing IDR 1,908 trillion, or around 33% (Bank Indonesia, 2021). The study examines the current situation of the digital economy in Indonesia. The debate will center on the digital economy's difficulties and prospects concerning Indonesia's existing economic ecosystem and digitalization. Aside from that, this text will analyze the potential of the digital economy in making Indonesia a Southeast Asian economic power. The study provides a conceptual framework to theoretically and empirically contribute to developments and critical concerns in Indonesia's digital economy. The primary goal of this research is to acquire a better knowledge of the development of Indonesia's digital economy. This study employs qualitative research methodologies because they enable researchers to investigate and better comprehend the complexities of a phenomenon (Mohajan, 2018; Jones et al., 2022). Whiffin et al. (2002) define qualitative research as the detailed descriptive and

interpretive analysis of people's experiences, views, perspectives, and perceptions of social reality. The importance of qualitative research rests in its ability to capture information on the sentiments, attitudes, and values that underlie behavior by providing answers to inquiries on how, what, and why (Bazen et al., 2021). A qualitative technique is utilized to get a more comprehensive understanding of the digital economy in Indonesia from many perspectives to generate an empirical description that can then be conceptualized (Harris et al., 2021). This study makes use of secondary data gathered via a web-based method. Secondary data includes research studies, official figures from government publications, and descriptive pieces about the digitalization of the Indonesian economy and business. The document and content analysis results are subjectively interpreted by identifying patterns and themes in Indonesian digital economic information and data to provide a conceptual understanding of the development of the Indonesian digital economy as well as relevant policy implications.

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*Leisure paving way for women's empowerment in India*

Leisure has acquired new meanings for women today. While it has long been a luxury that primarily men enjoyed, women today are increasingly participating in leisure experiences. The traditional understanding of leisure as 'time away from work' meant that it was associated with men, who engaged in recreational activities apart from paid work. On the other hand, women primarily engaged in unpaid care work and had practically no freedom and thus could not participate in leisure. In addition, the activities they did participate in were not acknowledged as leisure. However, with greater workforce participation, higher exposure to the outside world and increased awareness, young women today are making conscious efforts to incorporate leisure into their everyday lives. At the same time, they continue to feel the pressure of domestic responsibilities, child care and work outside home. Through the case of young women's leisure experiences in Lucknow city, Uttar Pradesh, the study highlights how women engage in leisure experiences in their everyday lives and how participation in leisure itself is a significant marker of their empowerment. It is crucial to understand that leisure has different meanings for different women; in addition, factors like economic & social class and marital status also determine the kind of leisure they engage in. Nonetheless, women engage in wide-ranging leisure activities despite the many constraints they witness, thus making leisure an empowering exercise.

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*A philosophical inquiry on the corruption in the post-colony*

Considering Transparency International's latest analysis on corruption in African states and putting the results in the mirror with conceptual data on the phenomenon of corruption at a global level and about states being in different stages of transition after a colonial period and/or after or during different authoritarian regimes, this philosophical inquiry on the corruption in the post-colony points to unpacking the rationality of the

corruption, the links between corruption and development in new perspectives and to propose a few solutions to the management of corruption.

The particular cases analyzed herein focus on bribery present at all levels in the social structure of ex-colonies, whether they were classic colonies or only ideological ones. One important example is Cameroon, where Transparency International highlighted in 2015 equal levels of bribery acts in all sectors of social life, and departing from this example, the reflection is open towards defining the causes of corruption, the contexts of the individual's perceptions on it, the potentials of corruption's becoming and the solutions to take to control the spread of it.

Understood as an extension of colonial violent practices, corruption is analyzed under the lens of criticism towards colonial relations, tokens, and heritage, a case in which, corruption is integrated into the history of the world dichotomies and may be deconstructed in the frame of Western powers disintegration and Lyotard's occidental decadence. But this philosophical incursion will capitalize on post structuralist views as well as recent narratives on African contexts and reason.

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*Rise of Asia- Promoting tourism*

Giving importance to Rise of Asia demands focus from several angles, including regional, national as well as that of citizens. Complete development of any country may be viewed as incomplete till adequate importance is not given to economic progress of its citizens, particularly in this phase when inflation is restricting this aspect. In this paper, an attempt shall be made to focus on how countries in Asia can contribute to this aspect – which will contribute to the rise of countries as well as the region. Priority should perhaps be first given to reducing chances of certain countries considering and/or resorting to war/war-like conflict among themselves. Rather, till conflict prevails, it is likely to only hinder progress. Of course, there prevail certain regional and other issues which cannot be easily resolved between certain countries. It is time greater importance was given to dialogue, talks and similar means towards peace. This is not impossible. An Asian Forum needs to perhaps pay attention to how each member country can benefit and also help other countries. If some importance is accorded to promoting intra-regional tourism, cultural, educational, medical apart from sight-seeing, chances of Asia progressing socially as well as economically are likely to increase. Elementarily speaking, this shall certainly create more employment opportunities for people of practically all classes. In addition, this shall probably prompt Asian countries to give importance to promoting the areas, which may attract more tourists to their respective countries. In this age of communication-boom, this sector needs greater attention with focus on economic advantages it can spell for countries as well as citizens of Asia.

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*Iraqi Christians are in danger of disappearing*

In the recent past, experts have repeatedly warned that the Christian population in Iraq and the region will disappear if the mentality of the government and society as well as



economic policies do not fundamentally change. The head of the Chaldean Catholic Church, Louis Raphaël Sako, also declared that Christians in Iraq continue to be treated as “second-class citizens”. Human rights activists are calling for a change to the current constitution to create a democratic system based on citizenship rather than religion and ethnicity. Another problem is the emigration of Iraqi Christians. In the period before the rise of the Islamic State (mainly before 2014), there were many reasons for the emigration of Iraqi minorities. On an individual level, the prospect of job opportunities in the West, the desire to marry and start a family in a more stable environment and to further their education at internationally recognized universities were among the motivations for emigration. Dissatisfaction with the lack of stability among the non-Muslim population was also evident at the time, but after the rise of the Islamic State, this motive became much more prominent in their circles. However, the withdrawal of the Islamic State terrorist organization in 2017 has paved the way for some Christians to return, but the insecurity and lack of jobs and basic services pose major challenges for them. Many of the returnees were confronted with strangers living in their homes. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that in certain areas local militias have taken control instead of the state army. The Iraqi Prime Minister has repeatedly encouraged the displaced Christians to return to their homes. This can be seen as a positive development, but Christians feel that the environment is still not conducive to safe return.

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*China and the COVID-19 Pandemic: The domestic-international dichotomy*

Despite its ravaging global ramifications, COVID-19 has been perceived as an exclusive geopolitical opportunity for China to wield its soft power and brand its international image as a responsible global power amid the crisis. Seizing the American absence, at an early stage of the pandemic, China has made strenuous global efforts to divert the world’s attention from the epicenter of the virus to its unrivaled solidarity and benevolence to abate it. Aiming to cultivate external perceptions of China as a positive power, Beijing has been unwavering in the conduct of both ‘mask’ and ‘vaccine’ diplomacies during the pandemic. The paper examines the jarring discrepancy between the liberal principles and cooperative strategies Beijing preaches internationally and its draconian policies and response to the pandemic domestically, which eventually led to country-wide protests, and the party’s decision to abandon the country’s zero covid policy. The core consideration of this analysis is to critically study the violence and civil unrest following Beijing’s enforcing of the zero-COVID policy. The future of China’s ambitions of seeking to strengthen its stature and assert a greater influence in a ‘liberal’ world order would be excavated considering the chaos resulting from its suppressive response and double standards on the domestic level.

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*The formation of civil society through a mode of governmentality in post-reform Vietnam*

Governmentality is a governing concept for neoliberal states to maximize liberal rights for comparative advantage in terms of competitiveness and efficiency. In the context of neoliberal globalization, authoritarian states also use governmentality to govern people within administered spaces for free-wheeling entrepreneurial behavior when liberal rights

are still restricted. These spaces resemble an autonomous civil society but are not free from state control which is instead exercised from a distance through intermediary organizations and market institutions. The NGO sector in Vietnam was formed in the context of state welfare reduction, which has a distinctive appeal to women for the professional opportunities to care for others. This presentation presents an account of civil society from the perspective of women working in the NGO sector in post-reform Vietnam. Despite working with extremely restricted conditions and state supervision, the women expressed their freedom to associate for acts of caregiving in individually- and privately-owned NGOs. They demonstrate their role as caregivers and educators rather than agitating against the state. They defend feminized talents and responsibility to care for collective well-being with the perception of ethical citizenship which is applauded by the state for self-reliance in care. The formation of the space for these autonomous and people-oriented organizations sheds light on the dynamics of capitalist development in Vietnam.

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*Unleashing the rise of Asia: challenges and prospects for Bangladesh in promoting sustainable global prosperity*

The recent rise of Asia as an economic superpower has garnered widespread attention. As Asia continues to emerge as a preeminent global player, it is essential to assess both the challenges and possibilities associated with this rise. This paper explores the multifaceted dynamics of Asia's ascent and its implications for sustainable global prosperity, with a particular focus on Bangladesh's role in this transformative process. The study begins by identifying Asia's key challenges as it strives to ensure that its rise benefits not only its own people but also other regions of the world. These challenges involve economic, social, environmental, and geopolitical factors, among others. By analyzing these obstacles, this qualitative research-based study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the challenges that must be addressed to foster inclusive growth and shared prosperity.

The study explores Bangladesh's unique position within the Asian landscape and the opportunities it presents for contributing to sustainable global prosperity. In recent years, Bangladesh has experienced remarkable economic growth, but it also faces significant challenges, including poverty, inequality, climate change, and governance issues. The purpose of this study is to identify specific areas in which Bangladesh can leverage its strengths to contribute to the collective progress of Asia and the world by focusing on those obstacles.

In addition, it investigates the opportunities and potential strategies for Bangladesh to actively participate in and profit from Asia's rise. It looks into economic integration, trade partnerships, technological advancements, and sustainable development initiatives that can propel Bangladesh's growth trajectory while promoting regional and international cooperation. Likewise, it delves into the importance of peace, justice, diversity, and solidarity in shaping a sustainable and inclusive future, emphasizing the need for collaborative efforts among Asian nations and beyond.

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*The future of city diplomacy in Asia*

This paper argues that city diplomacy has the potential to accelerate the rise of Asia in the forthcoming years. City diplomacy refers to the increasing role and influence of cities in international affairs, where cities actively engage in diplomacy, networking, and cooperation with other cities, regions, and countries. In the discipline of International Relations, this issue is a part of the larger discourse on paradiplomacy, or diplomatic activities conducted at the sub-state levels.

The paper attempts to analyze the unique characteristics and advantages that cities possess in fostering diplomatic relations, namely as cultural enclaves, economic powerhouses, and centers of innovation. In a wider Asian context, this form of intercity engagement enables Asian cities to share knowledge, exchange best practices to address common challenges such as climate change, urbanization, and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

This paper employs a qualitative method and it provides a description on how city diplomacy is implemented as a complementary tool to the conventional interstate diplomatic practices. In doing so, this paper also provides several case studies from Asian cities that have demonstrated the potential of city diplomacy through sister cities or some other forms of international engagement.

Finally, the paper outlines the potential challenges and limitations of city diplomacy, including the need for effective coordination among multiple stakeholders, the clear understanding about how cities should envision themselves in the global competition, as well as the issue of political sensitivities. It offers recommendations to overcome these hurdles and outlines strategies for Asian cities to fully capitalize on the opportunities presented by city diplomacy.

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*Russian public diplomacy in East Asia.*

In Russia, Public Diplomacy is viewed as engaging foreign target audiences by fostering cooperation in political, economic, and cultural spheres.

The Soviet Union was a public diplomacy superpower. From the end of the Cold War until early 2000s Russian programmes involving foreign audiences were substantially cut. It was a unilateral disarmament in this sphere. The necessity for using PD more actively was realized in Russia during the early 2000s. That is the reason why all mechanisms of its participation in the engagement with foreign audiences and international development assistance have only been recently re-established. This research will give an analysis of the initiatives and institutions, as well as include an overview of the main regional priorities of Russian PD in East Asia that has been and remains one of the key original purposes of Russian foreign policy for decades. In the paper, the author searches for a framework to analyze Russian PD in the region: what are its goals, actors and instruments. It also gives countries case studies of Russian Public diplomacy (Vietnam, China, Republic of Korea, Indonesia, Myanmar). In the conclusion SWOT-analysis of Russian public diplomacy in East Asia is presented.

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## *Gender mainstreaming in Asia through financial empowerment*

Gender mainstreaming encompasses the aspects of equality in opportunities, economic and social outcomes and decision-making for women with significant ramifications for the inclusive and sustainable development of an economy. The need to address gender inequalities has never been more urgent as the gender gaps across various dimensions are worsening rapidly. According to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report (2021), covering 156 economies, it is expected to take 130 years to close gender gaps worldwide, up from 100 years before the pandemic. In this context, the present paper examines the role of financial empowerment in reducing gender inequalities and expediting gender mainstreaming in Asia. The study discusses the key drivers of gender disparity in access and usage of financial products and services, along with gaps in digitalization. Lack of access to technological infrastructure, cultural and social norms and lack of financial literacy are the major challenges to the financial empowerment of women. The paper argues that gender mainstreaming through better labor force participation, self-employment, better decision-making and mobility outcomes can be achieved through the financial empowerment of women, with a special focus on digitalization. The empirical data analysis using the Gender Equality database of the World Bank and the supply-side measures of financial inclusion is presented to motivate the policy recommendations for the Asian Economies.

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*Perspectives on gender mainstreaming in India: issues and challenges*

This talk will take stock of the current paradigms in vogue, especially in the development sector, on account of gender mainstreaming in India. An overview of the policies, shifts, and approaches to interventions around gender. A specific focus on menstruation related policies will be part of the talk. I will attempt to propose an alternative model for those interested in a feminist lens to avoid co-option by market and state forces.

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*Navigating norms: assessing the Asian system's compliance with global standards*

The rise of Asia, as delineated by Parag Khanna, has brought forth a dynamic regional order, which, in tandem with globalized norms and principles, presents a complex terrain of interaction. This research paper undertakes a comprehensive examination of the Asian system's engagement with international norms and principles, with a specific focus on human rights and environmental sustainability. It seeks to discern the extent to which the Asian system adheres to these global standards while shedding light on areas of convergence and divergence.

The Asian system, characterized by its decentralized structure and the absence of a formal supranational authority, offers a unique lens through which to investigate normative dynamics. It has experienced significant economic growth and geopolitical influence in recent decades, thereby assuming an increasingly prominent role in shaping global

governance. This research aims to address the critical question of whether the Asian system is a passive recipient of international norms or an active participant in shaping them.

To achieve this goal, the study employs a multidisciplinary approach, drawing from political science, international relations, and comparative studies. It combines qualitative and quantitative analysis, utilizing case studies, policy assessments, and data-driven methodologies.

The research contributes to a nuanced understanding of how the Asian system engages with global standards, shedding light on its role in the evolving global order. By examining the challenges and opportunities presented by this interaction, this study aims to inform future strategies for fostering international cooperation, stability, and normative alignment in a multipolar world.

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*Unmasking Asian-American perfection – Challenging stereotypes of model minorities*

This project's research topic is invoking and challenging the stereotype of Asian Americans as model minorities. The earlier research on this trend examined the historical process and underlying factors that led to Asian immigrants developing this particular stereotype in their living society. Due to varying upbringings, as well as political and cultural circumstances, the second generation of Asian Americans is growing, which has pushed this community back into the spotlight. I base my analysis on the recently released Netflix series *Beef*, which accurately depicts East Asian culture in US society. *Beef* depicts the story of two strangers – Amy and Danny, two Asian Americans – uniting after a road rage incident during a low point in each of their personal lives. This led to a series of increasingly extreme retaliations against one another. Unlike the common perception of model minorities as hardworking, industrious, and having low rates of crime. On the other hand, there is a lot of violence, treachery, and hostility in the Asian-American community of *Beef*. It causes me to wonder about Asian Americans' current status as model minorities and how they are currently shattering this stereotype. This research uses close reading and analysis of the television show *Beef* as its methodology. This paper's first chapter will provide a quick overview of the model minorities' theoretical foundation. The second chapter will examine how and why *Beef* uses character portrayals and tales to subvert the stereotype of the model minority. This section would apply Freud's theory of repression. To bolster the examination of this turn from a psychological standpoint. This essay tries to envision how minorities can gain a stronger sense of voice and belonging by concentrating more on the recent rise in Asian-American circumstances.

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*Health promoting university for a happy and healthy campus community.*

Background: Health promotion is the process of empowering people to maintain, improve and protect their health through increasing awareness, willingness and ability, as well as developing a healthy environment. Health promotion should be carried out in all settings such as household settings, hospital settings, workplace settings and educational settings including universities. We often refer to health promotion in university settings as

Health Promoting University (HPU). The article will describe about the HPU in Airlangga University Indonesia from beginning until the result of the effort. Metode: We did HPU by advocacy, mediate and enable the stakeholder in the Airlangga university Indonesia. We did advocacy the leader of university to support the HPU. Mediating all of stakeholder to do the HPU based on 3 criteria, that are system and infrastructure, zero tolerance and health promotion program. Enabling the stafs and the students to conduct the activities for raising up the HPU indicator.

Result: In 2017 Airlangga University of Indonesia became a member of AUN-HPN (Asia University Network-Health Promotion Network). Since then the HPU at Airlangga University has begun. Various efforts were made based on 3 HURS criteria (Healthy University Rating System), namely system and infrastructure, zero tolerance and health promotion program. For systems and infrastructure, Airlangga has started making regulations regarding a green campus, zero smoking and a healthy curricula. Airlangga also makes healthy infrastructure such as safe and clean buildings, healthy waste disposal sites (organic and inorganic separation), compost management, facilities for the difabel such as hand railings, parking and toilets for the difabel. Airlangga also develops zero tolerance for No smoking, No drugs, No gambling, No bullying, No sexual harassment. Formed officers for reinforcement No smoking and No sexual harassment. Airlangga also organizes health promotion program activities such as periodic physical examinations, education on healthy life and well being for staff and students. Formed Soby (Happy & Healthy Friends --- Buddy means friend) was also formed from students for students. While students accompany other students who have problems so they share their problems, discuss and get solutions. We run the Training of Trainer to train Soby as a peer educator. All of the activities can not exist if the leader did not approve and support the HPU program. So in the first step, we did a call to the leader of the university, mediated all of the stakeholders in the university, and enabled staff and students for the success of HPU. Conclusion: HPU is a tool and method to reach a community becoming healthy and happy. HPU can be successful if the leader supports the program, the stakeholder did the activities for supporting and the staff and students are empowered to do so.

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*Understanding the cultural policy and animation production in China from 2001 to the present*

The Chinese animation industry has become an important component of Chinese creative industries. Chinese animators have made efforts to create animation works that showcase Chinese culture and stories, in addition to being commercially successful. Chinese cultural policy has specifically targeted the animation industry to support the concept of Chinese distinctiveness and originality (Fan and Feng 2021) in the context of explicit ideas about Chinese soft power (Keane 2010; Peng and Keane 2019). This paper aims to explore contemporary Chinese animation within the political environment from 2001 to the present. This paper discusses the changes in Chinese cultural policy and how these changes impact animation products and the animation industry. This research adopts the policy content analysis and examines economic and social policies, such as Five-Year Plans and supportive official Notices, with the discussion of construction of socialist spiritual civilisation and soft power through animation products. Featuring Chinese animation case studies, this research further demonstrates the relationship between the creative process and the depiction of national and cultural identity. This paper argues that the state government consistently pursues domain power to maintain ideological control through central cultural policies. Furthermore, policies related to cultural and creative industries play a role in encouraging

creative practitioners to assist the state in promoting and circulating socialist ideology and traditional culture, which impacts on the creative animation studios. This study will provide new knowledge that helps us to understand the relationship between cultural policy, creativity, and Chinese animation production as a creative practice. •

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*BRICS + Banking for innovations and technology transfer*

There is no denying the fact that, actually, BRICS play a key role in the global economy and banks contribute to the development of our member-countries. In its turn, effective banking depends on accurate assessment of common problems and mutual solutions in business and funds accumulation for innovations and technology transfer. BRICS are rich in human and natural resources (water, forest, bio-resources, minerals, energy, large domestic market, etc.) and BRICS financial markets are of particular importance for the development. Experts believe that in the near future due to the growth and development of BRICS financial and credit institutions the world economy and stock markets will rapidly develop. In this regard, BRICS banking attracts the attention of scientists and practitioners. Actually, there are different forms of ownership of BRICS banks: private and public institutions, which occupy leading positions on deposit and loan transactions, banks and other financial institutions with international and intergovernmental participation. The analysis of current developments of BRICS emerging markets has proved that financial institutions are able to support the economy and support the growth of partnership, backed by economic interest of member - countries, encouraging trade development and technology transfer that increases cooperation. Banking support for the least protected market participants - SMEs, entrepreneurs - driver and buffer of any economy will create favorable conditions for sustainable economic development; generate employment, production of goods that are under market demand. Effective cooperation of BRICS countries and its partners, connected with the relevant design of banking is especially required in contemporary environments. Consequently, creation of a reasonable BRICS strategy for innovation development and technology transfer is possible by using holistic analysis of economic demands of each member-country.

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*Empowering mothers' roles in maintaining the quality of nutritious food for children in Indonesia*

High calories, fat, and sugar in children's food has become a big concern for the Indonesian government related to human resource development. Therefore, the roles of mothers need to be empowered to maintain the quality of children's nutrition. This discussion aims to find out the effective way to empower mothers' roles by using children's story books on the themes of nutrition. One of the story books suggested for this discussion is a book entitled Sano and His Tummy Friends by Patricia Paramita. This discussion is supported by a qualitative approach with the method of reviewing literature of books and journal articles. The data is analyzed by applying three stages of qualitative data; data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing and verification. The results show that children's story books not only provide information about nutritious food to maintain the

quality of nutrition for children but also improve the literacy competence of the mothers. In Addition, by reading a story book, the relationship between a mother and her child/ren is built lovely, creating a communicative and harmonious space in a family.

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*The decisive role of the global majority in 2024*

It is likely that the year of 2024 will become the most decisive year in the history of mankind. There is the danger that the geopolitical confrontation already existing concerning Ukraine and Southwest Asia and the effort by some countries to prevent the rise of Asia could lead to a strategic escalation and even global war.

On the other hand the BRICS-10 could become the BRICS- 24 already this year with more countries preparing to join. Given the relative strategic stalemate between the “West” and Russia and China, the role of the Global Majority can and must become the decisive factor, which will lead the world out of the present crisis.

The countries of the Global Majority are bringing in a renaissance of the „Bandung Spirit“, this time with the clear mission to end 600 years of colonialism and to establish a completely new paradigm in international relations. Especially the countries of Asia, who are basing their future oriented policies on the traditions of their sometimes 5000 year old history can introduce a perspective, which the countries of the West have clearly lost for the time being. Thus, the role of the Global Majority is the key to bring the world into a new era.

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*Revisiting tricontinental cooperation and solidarity*

It was with great sadness that OSPAAAL, short for Organización de Solidaridad de los Pueblos de Asia, África y América Latina in Spanish, ceased to exist formally in 2019. It seemed that it had fulfilled its mandate of organizing the peoples of Africa, Asia and Latin America in solidarity to advance and defend their freedoms. Not much was said about in what sense was that struggle over, but it seemed the idea was to give tricontinentalism an opportunity to shape new vehicles to propel it. OSPAAAL had since 1966 brought together these peoples in solidarity as they escaped the shackles of colonialism and imperialism. Established in Havana, Cuba, in 1966 following the first Tricontinental Conference attended by delegates from 82 countries, OSPAAAL represented a south-south cooperation and solidarity paradigm in North-dominated and controlled international relations, one that places a premium on sovereign equality of nations, independence, freedom, solidarity, anti-domination and cooperation. It supported vocally the idea of a new international economic order, one that is human-centered, just and fair. It was formed out of an effort to join together global south formations that existed already, the convergence between the Non-Aligned Movement and the militant Afro-Asian People’s Solidarity Organisation on the basis of this shared search for a stronger agency by the global south in global and regional affairs. The death of OSPAAAL did not mean the death of the idea of tricontinental cooperation but an opportunity for these continents to build stronger partnerships given the re-emergence of geopolitics of Cold War, persistent problems of global poverty and inequality, and given a strong sense of shared purpose among these continents in a range of goals including an



inclusive global economy, an inclusive digital economy, just transitions in energy, human-centered development and so forth. In this paper, I will propose that the idea for which OSPAAAL existed should find expression in new ways of organizing tricontinentalism. Unprecedented challenges and opportunities face the peoples of these southern continents, new ways to connect them practically are needed.

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### **French Abstracts**

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*Culture et paradigme : réduction des conflits paradigmatiques mondiaux par la force imposée par la transmissibilité paradigmatique*

La progression mondiale actuelle qui tend vers le scandale, le chaos et le conflit, ainsi que l'accentuation incessante des escalades vers la guerre, nécessitent des réactions audacieuses. La coexistence de paradigme de domination et de contrôle des pays superpuissances, de paradigme de soumission et d'aliénation des pays en retard, mais aussi de paradigme de révolution chez les pays émergents tels que la Chine en tête suivi de près par la Russie et l'Inde, constituent des conflits paradigmatiques mondiaux. La problématique repose sur la recherche des causes et ses solutions possibles. En effet, la démarche porte l'existence des constantes culturelles, politiques, économiques et sociales universelles, ainsi que les nuances qu'elles portent en elles. Kuhn explique les éléments qui structurent un paradigme scientifique dont d'autres auteurs ont exploité pour expliquer les paradigmes des autres disciplines ou domaines tels que la politique, l'économie et le social. Ces études constituent un socle sur la constante et le paradigme dans un sens commun. Toutefois, quelques manques reposent (1) sur la définition d'une manière ascendante de la constante paradigmatique universelle, (2) sur la détermination de la constante de démarche sans violence de formation ou de conception des grands paradigmes et (3) sur le renforcement de la constante paradigmatique universelle, c'est-à-dire, l'intelligence paradigmatique capable de réduire les conflits paradigmatiques. Ces bases constituent les hypothèses prises. L'approche historique, l'approche culturelle et la méthode de l'idéal type ont fourni des données importantes confirmant ces hypothèses. Elle relève les défis tels que la démarche sans violence, l'imposition de la réalisation d'un conclave mondial, la maîtrise des différents facteurs, l'implication des différents acteurs majeurs et l'universalité. La perspective est de réaliser une convention sur un cadre de référence universel basé sur la constante paradigmatique universelle. La Chine en chef de file, est déjà dans cette logique dans cette logique dans l'instauration d'un cadre international multipolaire.

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*Croissance économique asiatique, implications mondiales, développement durable, géopolitique, solidarité.*

La croissance économique asiatique, résultat de facteurs tels que l'industrialisation rapide, l'innovation technologique, et l'ouverture aux échanges internationaux, impacte significativement l'économie mondiale. Des pays diversifiés d'Asie, de la Chine à l'Inde,

contribuent à cette croissance. Elle génère une demande internationale pour les biens et services asiatiques, jouant un rôle majeur dans la création de richesse à l'échelle mondiale.

En parallèle, la croissance asiatique a des implications géopolitiques substantielles, influant sur la politique et la sécurité mondiales. Les rivalités géopolitiques et les opportunités de coopération en Asie ont des conséquences sur la stabilité internationale.

Cependant, cette croissance économique asiatique s'accompagne également de défis significatifs, tels que les inégalités croissantes, la pression sur les ressources naturelles et les questions environnementales. Les politiques de développement durable sont devenues une préoccupation cruciale pour garantir que cette croissance se poursuive de manière équilibrée et responsable.

En fin de compte, la croissance économique asiatique redéfinit les dynamiques économiques mondiales et pose des défis et des opportunités pour la prospérité durable, la coopération internationale, la diversité culturelle et la solidarité à l'échelle mondiale. Comprendre les implications de cette croissance est essentiel pour forger des politiques et des stratégies qui favorisent une coexistence pacifique, la justice économique et la prospérité mondiale dans un monde de plus en plus interconnecté.

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*L'Asie du Sud-Est et les crises financières asiatique et mondiale.*

Alors que la communauté économique mondiale s'efforce de tirer des leçons des crises passées, l'analyse des économies de l'Asie du Sud-Est face à la crise financière mondiale de 2008-09 et à la pandémie de COVID-19 offre une perspective intrigante. Un élément crucial à explorer est l'impact des politiques monétaires et fiscales adoptées par les pays de la région en réponse à ces crises. Une étude approfondie de ces politiques pourrait fournir des perspectives précieuses sur l'efficacité des mesures de relance, la stabilité des monnaies nationales et la résilience des marchés financiers locaux.

Par ailleurs, l'analyse des secteurs économiques spécifiques qui ont été les plus touchés et ceux qui ont démontré une résilience remarquable serait pertinente. En examinant les secteurs clés tels que le tourisme, l'industrie manufacturière et les services financiers, nous avons identifié des modèles de reprise et formulé des recommandations stratégiques pour renforcer la diversification économique et réduire la vulnérabilité sectorielle.

Une dimension intéressante qui est explorée se centre sur l'impact des crises sur les inégalités socio-économiques au sein des pays de l'Asie du Sud-Est. Il serait pertinent d'analyser comment les politiques gouvernementales ont influencé la distribution des ressources et des opportunités, notamment en termes d'accès à l'éducation, aux soins de santé et au marché du travail. Cette perspective sociale enrichirait l'analyse en fournissant un aperçu des défis persistants et des opportunités de réforme pour promouvoir une croissance économique plus inclusive.

En outre, une étude comparative approfondie avec d'autres régions du monde confrontées aux mêmes crises éclaire les similitudes et les différences dans les réponses politiques et économiques. Cela contribuerait à consolider les résultats dans un contexte global, offrant ainsi des implications plus larges pour les politiques économiques mondiales.

En définitive, l'article explore le rôle des institutions financières internationales dans la gestion de ces crises, évaluant leur efficacité dans la fourniture de soutien financier et de conseils stratégiques aux pays de l'Asie du Sud-Est. Une évaluation critique de la coopération régionale et internationale pourrait fournir des recommandations précieuses pour renforcer la résilience mondiale face aux crises financières à venir.

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*L'Afrique, une éternelle assistée ? Analyse d'un pan de la coopération Côte d'Ivoire- Chine pour un vrai partenariat*

La tendance générale aujourd'hui en Afrique, est de célébrer la coopération avec l'Asie, nouveau pôle d'attraction économique et technologique du monde, clouant de passage au pilori, les anciens partenaires occidentaux. Les initiatives au demeurant ne manquent pas avec la multiplication des sommets Chine- Afrique ; Japon -Afrique, Inde- Afrique, etc.

La Chine, pour mieux marquer de son empreinte cette coopération tout azimut, a conçu le concept " Une ceinture, une route".

Parlant de cette coopération Asie -Afrique, certains analystes sont critiques ; Il est même reproché à la chine entre autres concernant ces projets de constructions, d'importer de chine, toute la matière première et même les ouvriers. Quelle est la véracité de ces assertions ? N'est-ce pas une manière subtile de maintenir l'assistance ?

L'étude que nous voulons conduire à la lumière des faits sus-évoqués sera circonscrite à un pays, la Côte d'Ivoire, avec pour question centrale, l'état de la coopération entre ces deux pays. Ce travail s'appuiera sur la recherche documentaire et une enquête de terrain.

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*Afghanistan: Intégration ou éclatement interétatique?*

La reprise de Kaboul par les Talibans au mois d'août 2021 a mis fin, abruptement, aux efforts des forces alliées de l'OTAN à reconstruire l'Afghanistan et à éradiquer le terrorisme sur le territoire. Prenant en considération que déjà deux ans se sont écoulés depuis cette reprise, la présente vise ainsi à passer en revue des hypothèses quant à la réorganisation géostratégique que ce changement de gouvernance risque d'engendrer en Asie. Nous retraçons d'abord les éléments constitutifs du règne taliban entre 1996 et 2001, afin d'en déceler les spécificités. Ensuite, nous retraçons l'évolution des spécificités géostratégiques de l'Afghanistan sous la coalition internationale déployée dans le pays (2001-2021).

À la lumière de ces éléments, nous nous pencherons sur les facteurs suggérant l'intégration des relations entre l'Afghanistan et les États des régions périphériques. Notamment, le niveau de développement humain étant au plus bas, les Talibans ont intérêt à coopérer avec les États voisins afin d'éviter d'envenimer la situation, d'autant plus s'ils veulent bénéficier des retombées économiques des nouvelles routes de la soie. Les rivalités régionales pourraient elles aussi jouer en faveur du régime taliban, compte tenu de la situation géographique centrale du territoire afghan. D'autres facteurs cependant suggèrent l'éclatement des relations entre l'Afghanistan et des régions en périphérie. Notamment, le trafic de drogue et l'afflux de migrants vers les États frontaliers pourraient détériorer la situation, alors que les États en périphérie pourraient continuer de resserrer leurs frontières pour des motifs sécuritaires.

La reprise de Kaboul en août 2021 a annoncé le début d'une période cruciale pour les Afghans aux prises avec des enjeux de développement humain, de sécurité et de migration accrus. Chose certaine, les décisions prises sont d'une importance capitale, puisqu'elles permettront de consolider la place de l'Afghanistan dans les relations interétatiques, ou au contraire de retourner vers un isolement du territoire.

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*Montée de l'Asie et résistance du monde capitaliste*

La montée de l'Asie peut contribuer à atténuer les crises de la mondialisation capitaliste et les instabilités politiques et géostratégiques subséquentes. Cela implique qu'elle surmonte au moins deux des défis majeurs que lui impose le monde capitaliste mature. Le défi de la résistance à l'adoption de la logique capitaliste, et le défi de la désarticulation du progrès de la rationalité technologique avancée des orientations hégémoniques capitalistes. Mais la densité de sa population, son entretien, la pression sur les ressources qui en résulte nécessairement, l'obligent du commerce extérieur et la rivalité induite avec les puissances hégémoniques concurrentes, et l'exigence de poursuivre le développement des progrès technologiques dans leur logique actuelle, le permettront-ils ?

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*Un levier d'ascension économique des pays d'Asie : l'agressivité des politiques d'investissements à l'étranger.*

Le scénario correspond aux anticipations réalistes, qui prévoyaient que les puissances montantes deviendraient plus agressives au fil de leur essor et chercheraient à renverser le statu quo. Le débat, pour ainsi dire, porte sur les stratégies d'internationalisation des pays asiatiques et prend la Chine comme objet. Il est à noter qu'en 2000, les autorités chinoises officialisent la stratégie d'internationalisation de la Chine, qui vise à stimuler ses investissements à l'étranger. Celle-ci est portée par la Commission du développement national et de la réforme (NDRC), chargée de conduire sa politique industrielle et élaborer des stratégies d'optimisation de ses investissements à l'étranger. En 2003, cette Commission arrête avec la banque EXIM, la Circulaire de soutien préalable aux investissements importants à l'étranger.

Avec le passage du système d'approbation au système d'autorisation, elle rend plus aisées les procédures pour les entreprises investissant à l'étranger. Accompagnant ce processus, le Ministère du Commerce chinois et la banque EXIM arrête la Circulaire sur la mise en œuvre de l'assurance-crédit privilégiée à l'importation et à l'exportation afin de soutenir les petites entreprises privées appartenant à une personne physique dans leurs initiatives de développement des marchés à l'international. Cette batterie de mesures incitatives est accompagnée de la création du Fonds de développement sino-africain dont l'une des finalités est d'investir directement dans les entreprises chinoises en Afrique. Cette recherche, qui s'appuie sur la théorie réaliste, soutient que la montée en puissance économique des pays asiatiques, notamment celle de la Chine, est le fruit d'une stratégie d'internationalisation agressive qui donne un coup d'accélérateur à l'expansion des investissements extérieurs de ces derniers. Les projets d'investissements chinois au Cameroun, notamment dans les secteurs des minerais, infrastructures, commerce et métallurgie serviront de base à cette réflexion.

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*L'Afrique, une éternelle assistée ? Analyse d'un pan de la coopération Côte d'Ivoire Chine pour un vrai partenariat.*

(voir le résumé de GNETO)

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*Impact de l'architecture verte au Vietnam et en Asie*

Dans le cadre de la conférence sur la montée de l'Asie en histoire et perspectives mondiales, il nous semble intéressant de proposer l'architecture verte au Vietnam et en Asie comme une réponse aux défis et perspectives pour progresser mondialement vers une prospérité durable en coopération, diversité et solidarité.

L'architecture verte puise ses matériaux dans la généreuse nature : bois, bambou, palme, rotin, latanier, terre ou encore chaume de riz.

Cas du Vietnam : exemples de l'Ecopark au nord et au sud de Hanoi et les rues du centre de Hô Chi Minh- Ville, transformées en espaces piétonniers pour diminuer la pollution de l'air.

Cas de l'Indonésie : développement de la plus grande zone industrielle verte du monde dans le Kalimantan du Nord, avec un grand potentiel dans le développement des énergies renouvelables.

Cas des temples bouddhistes en Asie de l'Est, (temple Todai-ji au Japon et le temple Haeinsa en Corée du Sud) qui sont des exemples d'architecture en bois traditionnelle.

Cas de la Cité interdite en Chine, architecture impériale en pierre, tandis que les maisons en bois de la dynastie Ming sont un exemple d'architecture résidentielle traditionnelle.

Asie Centrale (Kazakhstan, Kirghizistan, Mongolie, Tadjikistan, Turkménistan et l'Ouzbékistan), les maisons ont été influencées par une diversité de traditions architecturales (architecture russe aux époques tsariste et soviétique, islamique, perse et chinoise).

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*L'Afrique et l'Asie (conférence de Bandung 1955) à l'épreuve du globalisme mondiale*

Le principe d'un monde en paix, prospère et uni a très vite animé les peuples d'Afrique et d'Asie tel qu'en témoigne la conférence afri-asiatique de Bandung (1955). La présente réflexion se cristallise autour des grandes idées qui ont meublé cette coopération. La recherche des mécanismes de mutualisation des leviers de richesses de ces deux acteurs, tant au plan politique, militaire qu'économique s'est ainsi imposée dans ce contexte de colonisation persistante et du monde bipolaire de l'époque. Sous le prisme du constructivisme, notre objectif ici est de montrer que l'Afrique et l'Asie ont toujours eu en partage les valeurs de paix et d'unification à travers le développement d'une culture de l'entraide. Il apparaît, en croisant les sources et la littérature spécialisée, que la montée de l'Asie dans l'histoire africaine en particulier s'est forgée sur la nécessité de produire un

modèle d'humanité fondé sur des bases de justice, de coopération, de solidarité avec en toile de fond la diversité comme facteur de richesse. Cette orientation est d'ailleurs aujourd'hui davantage constatable dès lors que l'Asie est depuis plus d'une décennie le premier partenaire du Continent.

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*Création et mondialisation dans The Dreams Builders de Oindrila Mukherjee*

Le roman de l'auteur indienne Oindrila Mukherjee, *The Dream Builders* (2023), cerne et illustre les enjeux en lien avec les dynamiques de pouvoir entre différentes strates de la société à travers une vive critique de la mondialisation et, plus précisément, de l'américanisation. Si l'intrigue du roman semble de prime abord porter sur le retour de Maneka en Inde et sa tentative d'écrire un essai sur son pays natal, celle-ci est vite mise en second plan par la perspective des neuf autres personnages qui se partagent le récit. L'éclatement narratif décentre l'histoire de Maneka pour l'inscrire dans celui plus grand des résidents de la ville fictive de Hrishipur. Plus encore, la réflexion de Maneka sur son sujet de rédaction évolue en parallèle du déclin de l'américanisation de Hrishipur lorsque le site de construction des tours Trump est incendié le 8 août. Ce repère temporel, qui coïncide avec le mouvement *Quit India*, ne nous semble pas anodin, surtout si l'on considère que le roman en est presque entièrement dépourvu. Ainsi, nous nous demandons de quelle façon le choix du sujet de rédaction de Maneka est reflété dans le processus de mondialisation décrit dans l'intrigue du roman. La présente sera l'occasion de réfléchir aux enjeux narratifs du roman et la manière dont ceux-ci s'insèrent dans le processus de mondialisation présenté dans la ville-personnage de Hrishipur. À la lumière des propos d'Arjun Appadurai, nous étudierons le processus de mondialisation tel que présenté dans le roman. Nous nous pencherons sur la façon dont le changement de point de vue entre les personnages expose les inégalités sociales et les stratégies d'adaptation qu'ils entreprennent afin de tenter de changer leur sort. Enfin, nous analyserons comment ces éléments participent au processus de création de Maneka qui, plutôt que d'écrire sur l'Inde contemporaine, s'inspire de la vie de sa mère.

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*L'aide internationale comme instrument de domination politique*

L'intervention analyse comment l'aide internationale en Palestine a instauré un instrument de domination politique. Après avoir présenté le cadre théorique de l'analyse, je démontre les contradictions ayant concerné l'usage de la notion du développement dès les années 1950. L'accent sera mis ensuite sur la « Palestine des bailleurs de fonds », une configuration instaurée à la suite de la massification de l'aide après la signature des accords d'Oslo en 1993.

Cette présentation peut nous aider à saisir certains enjeux concernant l'aide internationale de nos jours, que cela soit l'aide dédiée à la reconstruction de la Bande de Gaza, ou encore celle en faveur de l'UNRWA ou de l'Autorité palestinienne.

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*L'Afrique et l'Asie, une opportunité après Bandung*

Ce panel va permettre de réfléchir sur les grandes conclusions de la conférence AFRASI de Ouagadougou organisée en décembre 2023 pour examiner les perspectives d'avenir de coopération entre l'Afrique et l'Asie basée sur la culture, l'économie et les savoirs endogènes dans une démarche gagnant-gagnant.

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*Le caractère multidimensionnel du développement des pays asiatiques : un modèle pour l'Afrique ?*

Il y a de cela un peu plus d'un demi-siècle, certaines analyses étaient teintées de pessimisme quant à la possibilité d'un développement des pays asiatiques. Quelques dizaines d'années plus tard, on assiste à un véritable bond économique d'une grande partie de ces pays, à l'image de celui des quatre « dragons » que sont la Corée du Sud, Hongkong, Singapour et Taïwan. On parle de « miracle asiatique » pour désigner cette croissance qui semble défier toutes les prévisions économiques ; d'autant plus qu'« [...] en 1960, la Corée du Sud a le même PIB que le Soudan et Taïwan que le Zaïre » (Morris, 1996), alors qu'aujourd'hui, ces « dragons asiatiques » font partie des zones économiques les plus prolifères. Que s'est-il passé en l'espace de quelques dizaines d'années dans ces pays asiatiques ? Pourquoi les pays africains, contrairement à ceux asiatiques, ne sont-ils pas parvenus à créer un « miracle africain » ? Les facteurs qui sont à l'origine de la rapide croissance économique des pays asiatiques sont-ils uniques, comme on a tendance à le croire ? Dans une démarche analytique et critique, l'objectif de cette communication est de montrer les facteurs multidimensionnels du développement des pays asiatiques. Autrement dit, on ne saurait fonder la rapide croissance économique des pays asiatiques sur un seul facteur. Dans l'émergence des pays asiatiques, il y a l'interventionnisme de l'État qui, contrairement aux économies libérales occidentales, a structuré les entreprises asiatiques ; le recours à l'industrialisation ; les réformes éducatives à l'image du modèle singapourien ; l'appropriation de la science et de la technologie, etc. ; ce qui pourrait servir de modèle pour les pays africains.

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*Mondialisation tronquée: quelles perspectives?*

L'époque contemporaine est une époque d'affirmation décisive de la société marchande, capitaliste, et donc d'exacerbation des rapports marchands. C'est une époque d'explosion des moyens de production, d'ouverture des sociétés les unes aux autres, à travers la révolution des transports et des moyens de communication, d'explosion des échanges planétaires, de conquête de nouvelles richesses et d'affirmation de nouveaux rapports sociaux. Le concept de « mondialisation » traduit ce bouillonnement du monde, cette mutation radicale des rapports sociaux.

La mondialisation qui suppose l'intégration des économies et la banalisation de la communication à travers l'ensemble de la planète, suggère la possibilité d'une régulation des rapports inter-nations, de gagner la cause de la prospérité collective, de la paix mondiale. L'espèce humaine forme désormais une communauté politique et, dans cette perspective, un État-monde, en gestation, existe comme l'acte ultime d'une histoire commune, partagée. Il se met malheureusement en place sous une forme aliénée, accaparée par les centres du pouvoir capitaliste, qui font de ses principales institutions, ONU, FMI ou L'OMC, des institutions de domination impériale.

C'est précisément là que les États du sud, Afrique-Asie en l'occurrence, qui subissent ensemble le rouleau compresseur de l'occidentalisation du monde, face aux défis d'un sort désormais commun, doivent trouver la force pour le combat du siècle : sortir ensemble notre destin des mains avides de pouvoir et de profit et imposer à l'Occident de rechercher avec nous les valeurs et les patrimoines autour desquels l'humanité pourrait désormais communier.

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