BRICS ACADEMIC FORUM 2021

03 - 06 AUG 2021
# AGENDA

## DAY 0 – 3 AUGUST 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BROADCAST TIME</th>
<th>SESSION DETAILS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17:30 - 18:00 Hours IST</td>
<td>Inaugural Session</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:30 Hours BRT</td>
<td>Opening Remarks: Dr. Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30 Hours MSK</td>
<td>Inaugural Address: Dr. S. Jaishankar, Union Minister for External Affairs, Government of India</td>
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<tr>
<td>20:00 - 20:30 Hours CST</td>
<td>Vote of Thanks: Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries</td>
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<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:30 Hours SAST</td>
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### 18:30 to 19:30 Hours IST

**Opening Plenary:**

**Post-Pandemic World Order: Challenges and Opportunities for BRICS**

The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed the shifting dynamics in international relations. A new imperative emerged for global governance which saw all nations reconfigure their priorities and partnerships. Some developments are for the short-term, others for the long-term. What are the characteristics of the post-pandemic world order? What kind of challenges and opportunities does it offer to BRICS? This session will examine the transformations in geopolitics and geoeconomics and explore what BRICS can do to shape the emerging world order.

**Speakers**

- **Dr. Ivan Tiago Machado Oliveira,** Director of Studies on International Economic and Political Relations, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil
- **Dr. Vyacheslav Nikonov,** Chair of the Board, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research, Russia
- **Dr. Jin Xin,** Secretary-General, China Council for BRICS Think Tank Cooperation (CCBTC), China
- **Prof. Siphamandla Zondi,** Chair, SA BRICS Think Tank and University of Johannesburg, South Africa
- **Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi,** Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India

**Moderator:** Amb. H.H.S. Viswanathan, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, India
# Day 1 - 4 August 2021

## Broadcast Time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>13:00 to 14:00 IST</td>
<td><strong>Road to COP26: BRICS Climate Agenda</strong>&lt;br&gt;As the clamour for Net-Zero emissions gains steam, it is clear that the road to COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland, will be one where political considerations override any firm commitment to climate action. The panel will explore the global progress on the Paris Agreement and will take stock of how the developed and developing nations have fared in their commitments. The session will look to outline a BRICS proposition on climate negotiations, targets and partnerships, which can ensure climate action in conjunction with developmental goals.</td>
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<td>4:30 - 5:30 BRT</td>
<td><strong>Speakers</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:30 MSK</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Ana Toni</strong>, Executive Director, Institute for Climate and Society (iCS), Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:30 CST</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Igor Makarov</strong>, Head of the School of World Economy, National Research University - Higher School of Economics, Russia</td>
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<td>9:30 - 10:30 SAST</td>
<td><strong>Dr. Lan Hong</strong>, Professor, Director of ecological finance research center, Renmin University, China</td>
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<td><strong>Ms. Romy Chevallier</strong>, Senior Researcher, South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa</td>
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<td><strong>Amb. Manjeev Puri</strong>, Distinguished Fellow, TERI, former ambassador and DPR of India to the UN and former lead negotiator for India at climate change negotiations, India</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator: Ms. Shikha Bhasin</strong>, Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)</td>
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<td>14:00 to 15:00 IST</td>
<td><strong>Break</strong></td>
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<td>15:00 to 16:00 IST</td>
<td><strong>Sustainable Lifestyles: Rethinking consumption - the forgotten SDG</strong>&lt;br&gt;The need to balance limited natural resources with consumption-led growth is the biggest challenge facing the 2030 Development Agenda. As countries move up the developmental ladder, increased urbanisation and demand for goods and services is likely to increase manifold. This panel will explore how the BRICS grouping can reimagine consumption patterns and align them with the SDGs. The session will discuss how the BRICS grouping can shape global discourse and policy formulation on sustainable lifestyles.</td>
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DAY 1 – 4 AUGUST 2021

17:30 -18:30
Hours CST
Speakers

Prof. Leonid Grigoryev, Principal Adviser to the Head of the Analytical Centre under the Government of the Russian Federation, Tenured Professor at the HSE University, Russia

Dr. Yi Wenjing, Research Assistant, Energy Research Institute of National Development and Reform Commission, China

Dr Thokozani Simelane, Director of Research, Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA), Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC), South Africa

Ms. Shalu Agrawal, Senior Programme Lead, Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), India

Moderator: Ms. Sunaina Kumar, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

11:30 -12:30
Hours SAST

16:00 to 17:00
Hours IST
Break

17:00 to 18:00
Hours IST
Building a BRICS Consensus on Counter-Terrorism
The threats from terrorism and violent extremism continue to pose diverse and complex challenges to international peace and stability. The evolving nature of these threats has meant no individual state can mitigate these challenges alone. This session will explore how the BRICS nations can cooperate to counter terrorism and promote international peace and security. In particular, the session will discuss how the five countries can cooperate on issues of terror financing, use of the Internet for terrorist purposes, and countering radicalisation.

Speakers

Prof. Anna Cruz, Professor, Brazilian College of Intelligence, Brazil

Dr. Timofei Bordachev, Academic Supervisor of the Center for Comprehensive European and International Studies at the National Research University Higher School of Economics (HSE), Program Director of the Valdai Discussion Club, Russia

Dr. Shen Yi, Director of Center for BRICS Studies, FDDI, Fudan University, China

Prof. Nirmala Gopal, Department of Criminology and Forensic Studies at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

Prof. Sreeram Chaulia, Professor and Dean, Jindal School of International Affairs (JSIA), India

Moderator: Ms. Palki Sharma Upadhyay, Executive Editor, Wion News
BRICS and the Global Health Agenda
The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the urgency of reviewing the global healthcare agenda. There is a need to review pandemic preparedness, international cooperation, vaccine development processes, global healthcare regulations, pharmaceutical supply chains, citizen awareness and local capacities. Which elements of healthcare should the governments prioritise? How can international cooperation be improved to ensure the world is better prepared for the next pandemic? How can governments, business and civil society work together to deliver healthcare to the citizens? This panel will review the lessons from Covid19 and explore measures that BRICS can take to improve healthcare delivery.

Speakers

Dr. Luciana Mendes Santos Servo, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil

Ms. Ekaterina Kheifets, Leading Analyst, Department of Economics and social development, Center for Strategic Research (CSR), Russia

Dr. Qi Xiaopeng, Deputy Director, Center for Global Public Health, Chinese Center for Disease Control and Prevention, China

Dr. Aquina Thulare, National Department of Health, South Africa

Prof. Ritu Priya, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, India

Moderator: Dr Shambhavi Naik, Head of Research, Takshashila Institution
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<th>TIME</th>
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| 11:30 - 12:30 Hours IST | **BRICS agenda for trade and resilient supply chains**  
The COVID-19 Pandemic highlighted the deficiencies in existing global trading arrangements and supply chain networks. As the world grappled to secure essential supplies, many nations chose a nation first approach. This panel will explore how the BRICS grouping can formulate a 21st century international trading framework, which can serve the needs of the developing and emerging nations. The session will look to put forth a BRICS-led international trading regime that reduces disruptions and streamlines regulations to promote greater flow in goods and services. |
| 3:00 - 4:00 Hours BRT | **Speakers**  
Dr. Flavio Lyrio Carneiro, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil  
Ms. Olga Ponomareva, Research Fellow, Institute of International Economics and Finance, Russian Foreign Trade Academy of the Ministry for Economic Development, Russia  
Dr. Tan Ya, Assistant Professor of School of International Trade and Economics, Researcher of Center for BRICS Studies, University of International Business and Economics, China  
Mr. Cyril Prinsloo, Senior Researcher, South African Institute of International Affairs, South Africa  
Dr. Nisha Taneja, Professor, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations, ICRIER, India  
**Moderator:** Amb. Mohan Kumar, Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries |
| 8:00 - 9:00 Hours SAST | **Mobilizing the NDB for financing SDGs**  
Five years since the New Development Bank became operational, the BRICS-led NDB has made significant investments in sustainable infrastructure and contributed to the global pool of climate finance. This session will take stock of the progress of the NDB and provide an outline for its investments going forward. The session will lay particular emphasis on how the NDB can catalyse finance from other sources, including sovereign funds, philanthropic ventures, and commercial banks. The panel will discuss how the Bank can become more effective in financing SDGs, particularly in a post-pandemic world where emerging and developing nations face capacity constraints, economic downturn, and societal upheaval. |
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<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:30</td>
<td>Speakers</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 - 10:30</td>
<td>Dr. Renato Coelho Baumann das Neves, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil</td>
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<td>Dr. Irina Yarygina, Scientific Director, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research, Russia</td>
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<td>Dr. Ye Yu, Research Fellow and Assistant Director, the Institute for World Economy Studies, Shanghai Institute for International Studies (SIIS), China</td>
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<td>Dr. Modimowabarwa Kanyane, Executive Dean, Faculty of Management, Commerce and Law, University of Venda, South Africa</td>
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<td>Ms. Prativa Shaw, Economic Policy Researcher, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</td>
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<td>Moderator: Prof. Ila Patnaik, Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy</td>
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<td>14:00 - 15:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>15:15 - 16:00</td>
<td>In Conversation</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:45 - 7:30</td>
<td>Why BRICS Matters?</td>
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<td>12:45 - 1:30</td>
<td>Speaker: Amb. P. Harish, India’s BRICS Sous Sherpa and Additional Secretary, ER, Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</td>
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<td>17:45 - 18:30</td>
<td>Moderator: Mr. Akshay Mathur, Director, ORF Mumbai, and Head, Geoeconomics Programme, ORF</td>
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<td>11:45 - 12:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>16:00 - 16:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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The COVID-19 pandemic has shown the importance of digital solutions as a means to respond to global challenges swiftly. It is clear that a new generation of Digital Public Goods are emerging to serve the healthcare, education and financial services needs of the citizens. How can digital public goods be supported? What is the role of government, business and civil society in ensuring the efficacy and integrity of digital public goods? The panel will examine developments in the field of digital public goods and explore measures that BRICS can take to support their deployment.

Speakers

Dr. José Eduardo Malta de Sá Brandão, Deputy Director of Studies on International Economic and Political Relations, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil

Ms. Ekaterina Khlunova, Deputy Director for BRICS STI Cooperation, International center for Innovations in science, technology and education

Dr. Feng Cheng, Deputy Director of Fintech Research Center, China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, China

Mr. Ashraf Patel, Researcher at the Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa

Mr. Abhinav Prakash, Assistant Professor, Shri Ram College of Commerce, University of Delhi, India

Moderator: Ms. Sunaina Kumar, Senior Fellow, Observer Research Foundation

BRICS and Global Economic Recovery

The pandemic has served a devastating blow to the global economy. The multilateral financial institutions such as the IMF and the World Bank have initiated programs to help economies that are most in need of assistance. Governments have infused more than $10 trillion, in aggregate, of financial support in their respective jurisdictions to support their economies. How effective has the economic response been? Has assistance reached the nations, firms and people most in need? What economic governance do we need to take to ensure revival of the global economy in the long-term? This panel will examine the success of current efforts and explore measures that BRICS can take to revive their respective nations and the global economy.
DAY 2 – 5 AUGUST 2021

Speakers

Dr. Marcelo José Braga Nonnenberg, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil

Dr. Mikhail Golovnin, First Deputy Director of the Institute of Economics of Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS), Russia

Dr. Gao Haihong, Professor and Director, Research Center for International Finance, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), China

Dr. Kagiso TK Pooe, Senior Lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Prof. Ila Patnaik, Professor, National Institute of Public Finance and Policy, India

Moderator: Dr. Rajat Kathuria, Dean, School of Social Sciences, Shiv Nadar University
### Building a post-pandemic workforce: An agenda for jobs

The COVID-19 Pandemic has catalysed the transformational shifts already underway in the nature of work, jobs, and livelihoods. Increasing digitalisation and technology adoption have disrupted the 20th century playbook on social security, education and skilling, and employment relations. In light of these rapid changes, particularly post-pandemic, this session will discuss how social safety and protection can be ensured even as the nature of work increasingly takes on more informal characteristics. The panel will explore the new models of education and skilling that are required to equip the present and future workforces and look to best practices among the BRICS nations that can be further adapted and adopted. The session will also lay emphasis on how the future of work can be made more inclusive, ensuring 20th century inequities are not replicated in the 21st century.

### Speakers

- **Dr. Luis Claudio Kubota**, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil
- **Mr. Alexander Ignatov**, Researcher, Center for International Institutions Research, Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration
- **Dr. Wang Yanzhong**, Director-General, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), China; **Dr. Ning Yafang**, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS), China
- **Mr. Njabulo Sithebe**, Special Advisor to the Co-Chair of the Economic Cluster in the South African Government
- **Dr. Sandhya S. Iyer**, Associate Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India

### Moderator:
**Ms. Sabina Dewan**, Founder and Executive Director, JustJobs Network
BRICS agenda for women’s leadership and women-led economic growth

The debilitating socio-economic effects of the pandemic were asymmetrically faced by women. For recovery to be equitable and inclusive, it must be women-led and women-centered. How can we reduce the economic, social and political inequities faced by women to ensure that women have their rightful place in the world as drivers of economic growth and sustainable development? How is the changing global economy changing the opportunities available to women? Are there specific measures that can be taken to improve female labour force participation, women-led financial inclusion and women-led enterprises? This panel will examine the post-pandemic policy, business and socio-economic landscape for women and explore how BRICS can support women-led economic growth.

Speakers

Dr. Marcela Torres Rezende, Researcher at the Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil

Dr. Victoria Panova, Vice-President for International Relations, Academic Supervisor, Far Eastern Federal University, BRICS Russia Expert Council, Russia

Prof. Wu Huifang, Deputy Dean, College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, China

Prof. Sarah Mosoetsa, Associate Professor of Sociology (Wits), Chief Executive Officer (NIHSS), National Institute for the Humanities and Social Sciences, South Africa

Ms. Lalitha Kumaramangalam, Former Chairperson, National Commission for Women, India

Moderator: Dr. Radhicka Kapoor, Senior Visiting Fellow, Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER)
Closing Plenary: Towards a Reformed Multilateralism

The BRICS countries have shown their commitment to reforming multilateralism. What the world needs today is a reinvigorated and ‘reformed multilateralism’ to effectively address the diverse challenges of our time. What specific measures do we need to reform the UN and its principal organs, as well as other multilateral institutions such as the IMF, World Bank, WHO and WTO? How can we make the multilateral system more resilient, efficient, effective, transparent and representative? This panel will examine the current state of reforms for multilateral institutions and explore how BRICS can build a truly effective representative multilateralism for successful global governance.

Speakers

Dr. André de Mello e Souza, Researcher, Institute for Applied Economic Research (Ipea), Brazil

Dr. Yaroslav Lissovolik, Program Director, Valdai Discussion Club, Russia

Dr. Jin Xin, Secretary-General, China Council for BRICS Think Tank Cooperation (CCBTC), China

Dr. Philani Mthembu, Executive Director, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa

Amb. H.H.S. Viswanathan, Distinguished Fellow, Observer Research Foundation, India

Moderator: Mr. Akshay Mathur, Director, ORF Mumbai, and Head, Geoeconomics Programme, ORF

19:30 - 20:00
Hours IST
Break

20:00 – 20:30
Hours IST
Valedictory Session

Closing Remarks
Prof. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries

Valedictory Address
Amb. Sanjay Bhattacharyya, India’s BRICS Sherpa and Secretary (CPV&OIA), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

Concluding Remarks
Dr. Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation