



The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

*Research in Progress* describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact [pascc@nps.edu](mailto:pascc@nps.edu).

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## U.S.-India Strategic Dialogue 2016

Performer: Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)

Project Lead: Paul S. Kapur

Project Cost: \$204,608

FY16–17

### Objective:

This dialogue seeks to improve mutual understanding between the United States and India on a range of strategic and security-related issues. Although the U.S. and India have declared themselves strategic partners, there is considerable uncertainty in both countries as to what the partnership actually entails and how it can be operationalized. While vast improvements have been made in the U.S.-Indian relationship since the Cold War, the areas of shared interests and values are not enough to minimize the nuclear and conventional dangers in the new environment.

This project will address issues central to the U.S.-Indian partnership, thereby helping to inform each side of the others' views, identifying potential means of pursuing joint strategic interests and managing disagreements and enabling the participants to serve as resources for their respective security communities.

### Approach:

This project will bring together Indian and American strategic experts for a three-day discussion of issues central to the U.S.-India strategic relationship, paying special attention devoted to nuclear-related questions. Specific topics to be explored will include: an assessment of the general state of the U.S.-Indian relationship one year into the Modi administration; India's conventional and nuclear force posture, including the space and cyber domains; India's strategic partnerships in the Indian Ocean/Asia-Pacific region; India's regional threat perceptions; and the security of India's nuclear complex. By comparing the findings with conclusions from previous years, it will be possible to determine the extent of the evolution and current direction of the U.S.-Indian relationship.