



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.

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Scoping Study and Model Development for South Asian Stability Workshop 3.0

Performer: Naval Postgraduate School (NPS)

Project Lead: Feroz Khan

Project Cost: \$ 110,447

FY16–17

Objective:

This research project will develop a new model and design a new scenario for conducting a third iteration of the South Asian Stability Workshop. This project will seek new game mechanisms that will allow for greater fidelity in depicting a nuclear-tinged future crisis in South Asia with the potential to draw in China and the United States. This project builds upon the foundations and feedback from previous TTXs conducted by the principle investigator. These previous exercises revealed several disconnects in each country's strategic rationale; limitations on their understandings of the intentions and capabilities of the other country; their assumptions about escalation control; and, most importantly, their assumptions and visualizations of the roles of international powers in South Asian crises. This crisis simulation exercise model will seek to incorporate best practices for conducting four-team war games and will incorporate regional force trajectories over the next ten years, as well as projected geopolitical trends.

Approach:

This research project will develop a game design that will model the interplay of major powers in a South Asian crisis through a four-team TTX, as well as modifying in-cell dynamics to reflect more realistic civil-military relations in South Asia. This model will also allow for a deeper exploration of inter-service dynamics in a region where little attention has been paid to the air and maritime domains and where advanced nuclear capabilities are being developed and deployed. Finally, the project will consider questions related to deterrence and strategic restraint as well as future global restraint. The research will culminate with a detailed research report to be briefed in Washington, DC, to U.S. government officials and think tanks for feedback, which will be taken into consideration in the final report.