



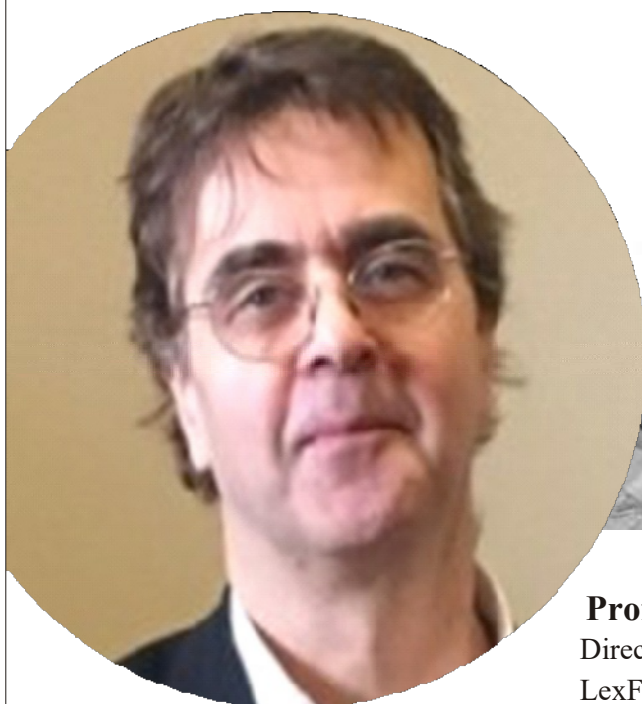
शिक्षा मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION



TEN DAY COURSE

ON

EURASIAN GEOPOLITICS AND THE 'NEW' GREAT GAME IN CENTRAL ASIA



Prof. Pierre CHABAL

Director

LexFEIM Law and Political Science Research Centre

<https://lexfeim.univ-lehavre.fr/>

Le Havre University, France

<https://www.univ-lehavre.fr/en/>

13-24 JANUARY 2025



<https://gian.iitkgp.ac.in/GREGN/index>

OVERVIEW

This course, “**Eurasian Geopolitics and the ‘New’ Great Game in Central Asia**”, aims to situate Eurasia and within Eurasia, the Central Asia region : i) in the new context of the post- Cold War Eurasia at large; ii) in the context of the 'Shanghai Cooperation' – since 2001 between China, Russia, the Central Asian republics and, since 2017 extending to India and Pakistan, and, since 2021-2022 including Iran and Belarus; and iii) within the long-standing geopolitical rivalries among these nations, in particular between Russia and China, and between China and India.

In this region, once (and still) known as Mackinder's 'heartland', this new context comprises not only the five Central Asian republics' diplomacy but also i) the 'pivot' of the 21st century - i.e. Afghanistan - as an 'engaged' 6th actor since 2005; and ii) the new multi-lateralised Sino-Russian and Sino-Indian rivalries with additional circles of power, gradually 'affiliating' into the geopolitics of the region, stretching from the Indo-Pacific to the Mediterranean. These include sub-regions such as Northeast Asia, Southern Asia and West Asia.

What is novel about the course is that it offers perspectives which argue that the US and Western/European influence in the region has yielded to an Asian space - both as 'post- Soviet' space and as sinicized space - over the 'projected' Western presence in Eurasia.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

This course aims to familiarise students with the basic concepts in the field of Eurasian studies. It offers a comprehensive conceptualisation of the term 'Eurasia' both in a historical context and in the light of contemporary developments in the Eurasian geopolitical space. Using historical and present-day cases from the post-Soviet space and its peripheries, the course will examine the political, economic and strategic developments in the region. State-specific studies woven into the course will enable the students to understand the socio-political realities of the Eurasian holistic space from a distinctively Eurasian perspective.

The course will present the new dynamics of the Eurasian continent in the post-Cold war period. It will probe into the dynamics of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation since 1996/2001, in the form of a new structuration of contemporary 'great games'. The focus is on the new patterns of interactions among countries, whereby national interest and bilateral dynamics have gradually paved the way for a multilateralisation that is largely regional in essence.

Students of International Relations, History, Economics, Politics, Sociology and Cultural studies will find this course relevant in the interpretations of policy debates surrounding the 'New Great Game' and its geo-political underpinnings in domestic, regional and global affairs.

By the end of the Course the participants are expected to:

- i) Have a comprehensive understanding of the multiple perspectives on 'Eurasia' as an ideological, economic and geopolitical reality.
- ii) Comprehend 'Eurasianism' as a concept and political practice in regional and global politics.
- iii) Comprehend the relevance of Eurasia for today's 'great game' around energy exporting routes and connectivity projects.
- iv) Understand the strategic response of the key actors to the transformations in the region, amidst the ongoing 'West' and the new 'East' competition in the Eurasian heartland.
- v) Understand the economic perspective of 'Eurasianism' in the context of the Eurasian cooperative process.
- vi) Identify new research areas geared towards objective power debates in the geostrategic landscape of contemporary Eurasia.

Date: 13- 24 January 2025 (excluding weekend)

COURSE DETAILS

Week 1 (13 -17 January 2025)

Day 1: 13 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Mapping Eurasia, Historical and Contemporary Perspectives.

Tutorial: On the methodology of 'regions'.

Day 2: 14 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Eurasian Strategic Landscape, Leading Actors: the 'New' Great Game beyond China, Russia, India.

Tutorial: On the 'Eurasianness' of Russia, China, India.

Day 3: 15 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Dynamics of the 'New Asia': Ulan-Bator, Tehran, Istanbul, New Delhi & Islamabad.

Tutorial: Can there be a new periphery? India in Eurasia.

Day 4: 16 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Institutionalising the post-Cold War Asia.

Tutorial: Are institutions, especially regional ones, still relevant?

Day 5: 17 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Is the 'New Asia' a military or an economic construction or both?

Tutorial: The meanings of security and stability: Montesquieu's temptation.

Week 2 (20-24 January 2025)

Day 6: 20 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Towards a regional Energy Club. What would it mean?

Tutorial: On the specifics of Eurasia's Caspian reserves and Indian access.

Day 7: 21 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Central Asian States as players in the regional geopolitics.

Tutorial: Maintaining Strategic Autonomy and Balanced External Policy.

Day 8: 22 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: Multi-lateralising old tensions into the 'New Asia'.

Tutorial: What is the geopolitical 'impact'?

Day 9: 23 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: The renewed forms of China-Russia and China-India rivalries.

Tutorial: Eurasia: 'much ado about nothing'?

Day 10: 24 January 2025 (2.5 hrs)

Lecture Topic: From the US withdrawal to the 'Asianisation' of Afghanistan.

Tutorial: Containing 'chaos' in Afghanistan and its neighbourhood.

TEACHING FACULTY

Prof. Pierre Chabal (PhD, Sc Dr), is an alumnus of Sciences-po Grenoble (France) and of the European University Institute (Italy). He is the Director of the LexFEIM Research Center at Le Havre University. He is the co-founder of the Logistics and Diplomacy seminars, of the Kazakh National University (Almaty) Center for European and Comparative law, and of the Europe-Asia research network. His research focuses on the analysis of regional constructions in the post-war contexts, notably Eurasia after the cold war. His publications on the Shanghai cooperation include: *The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and the Construction of the New Asia* (2016) and *The Shanghai Cooperation: Conceptualising the New Asia*



(2019). He has been a visiting professor at the national universities of Mongolia (NUM), Kazakhstan (KazNU), Uzbekistan (UWED), and at InHa (Korea), Marmara (Istanbul), Xian (China), Xiamen (China), Keio (Japan), Liège (Belgium), Southampton (UK), Utara Malaysia (Utah), Finance Academy (Moscow), Tashkent State University of Economics, and Seville (Spain). His epistemological and methodological concerns focus on comparativism and notably on the contexts and factors of regional constructions.

Venue

Convention Centre, JNU

WHO CAN ATTEND?

- ❖ Students at all levels (Bachelors/Masters/Ph.D)
- ❖ Faculty from Academic Institutions
- ❖ Professionals/Researchers in Media & Research Institutions

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Prior registration is mandatory for all students as per the procedure provided on the GIAN web portal.

B.A/M.A Students	:	Rs. 100
Ph.D. Students	:	Rs. 1000
Professionals/Teachers/Research Fellows	:	Rs. 2000

Registration Link: www.jnu.ac.in/gian

Registration starts from 15 December 2024

Course Coordinator:

Prof. Archana Upadhyay

Principle Coordinator

Centre for Russian & Central Asian Studies

School of International Studies

Jawaharlal Nehru University

New Delhi -110067

Email: archanaupadhyay.jnu@gmail.com