

G20 India Side Event

Youth Connect on “Towards Reformed Multilateralism: Role of Global Institutions and Frameworks”

Monday, 30 January 2023 | 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Jointly hosted by the Symbiosis School of International Studies (SSIS) and Observer Research Foundation (ORF), at the Symbiosis Auditorium, Viman Nagar (Old) Campus, Pune.



The assumption of the G20 presidency provides an opportune platform to India to play a prominent role in shaping and strengthening the global architecture and governance. To further this, the G-20 side event of Think-20 has been set in motion to involve think tanks and academia to make effective policy contributions to the ongoing dialogue. In keeping with this, under the aegis of the Symbiosis International (Deemed) University, the Symbiosis School of International Studies (SSIS) in collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) hosted a T-20 event to engage in an inter-generational dialogue on the theme, “Towards Reformed Multilateralism: Role of Global Institutions and Frameworks” on Monday, 30 January 2023. The event witnessed youth engagement on a large scale.

The programme commenced with a panel discussion involving eminent speakers viz., Ambassador (Retd.) Gautam Bambawale, Dr. Rajeshwari Pillai-Rajagopalan, and Dr. Harsh Pant. Ms. Shivali Lawale, Director SSIS, moderated the session engaging in a focussed discussion on issues that impact the contemporary multilateral order, the need to reform global institutions to better suit the needs and challenges of a changing world order and exploring India's role in promoting egalitarian and inclusive international platforms.



Presentations from students across 10 higher educational institutes (HEIs) in Pune followed the panel discussion. The event saw representation from the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, MIT World Peace University, MIT School of Government, FLAME University, Modern College of Arts, Commerce, and Sciences, Fergusson College, Institute of Management Development and Research (IMDR), the Symbiosis College of Art and Commerce (SCAC), the Symbiosis School of Liberal Arts (SSLA), and our very own SSIS. There was a vibrant and insightful set of presentations that identified the opportunities, challenges and recommendations for reforming multilateralism and India's role in bringing the world together on a range of relevant issues like migration, digital governance, climate change, clean energy, education, peacekeeping, and more. Following are some snippets from the same.



Student delegates from FLAME University highlighted the importance of reforming multilateral institutions to deal with international migration and turn the crisis into an opportunity.

Student delegates from the Symbiosis School of Liberal Arts (SSLA) shared some interesting recommendations for creating resilient and inclusive multilateral institutions, like the need for preparation, decentralization, and collectivism, which India during her G20 Presidency could spearhead.



SSIS delegates, Ridipt Kumar Singh and Shourya Gori suggest reforms in existing multilateral institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the United Nations (UN), to make them inclusive and receptive to the Global South.

To close the event, an inclusive and participative discussion platform was opened up for audience and panelist deliberations over pertinent questions. The programme succeeded in attaining the shared goal of enabling young people to express their visions and ideas and deliberate on a key theme of the G-20 deliberations and the larger goal of enabling a connecting point between G20 governments and their local youth.