

CNSS Journal of National Security Studies: Volume 2.

Issue 1

Call for Papers

The Centre for National Security Studies (CNSS), MS Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences (MSRUAS), announces the launch of its bi-annual double-blind peer-reviewed journal, CNSS Journal of National Security Studies. The journal shall serve as a credible compendium of knowledge on national security and related subjects. The journal invites papers on traditional and non-traditional security themes, in the international context in general, and the Indian context in particular. Here, we look forward to academic arguments that can shape and reshape the way we perceive our Indian national security, especially in tandem with the changing world. The CNSS Journal of National Security Studies calls for papers for its Volume 2, Issue 1 on the following themes and related topics and issues:

1. India's Foreign Policies and International Relations

This theme addresses India's strategic engagement with the world, balancing great power dynamics, and regional influence.

- **Key Areas:**
 - **Geopolitical Balancing:** Navigating relations with the US, China, and Russia amidst ongoing global polarization (e.g., Russia-Ukraine war, US-China rivalry).
 - **Indo-Pacific Strategy:** Deepening partnerships through the Quad and Act East Policy to ensure a secure and cooperative Indo-Pacific.
 - **Neighbourhood First Policy:** Managing complex regional dynamics and political transitions in South Asian countries like Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal.
 - **Global South Leadership:** Advocating for the interests and amplifying the voice of the Global South in international forums.
- **Topics:**
 - India-US trade tensions (e.g., US tariffs on Indian exports related to Russian oil trade) and defense cooperation.

- Sino-Indian border relations and the recent cautious de-escalation/trust-building measures in 2025.
- Strengthening energy and defense ties with the Middle East and Russia.
- Negotiation and progress on Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) with the UK and European Union.
- **Keywords:** Multi-alignment, Strategic Autonomy, Quad, Indo-Pacific, Neighbourhood First, Global South, Free Trade Agreements (FTAs), Counter-Terrorism Diplomacy.
- **Events (2025):**
 - Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) naval exercise in April.
 - Launch of the MAHASAGAR doctrine in Mauritius in March.
 - High-level visits and new investment pledges with Japan (August) and Brazil (October).
 - Operation SINDOOR (April 2025), a swift military response to a terror attack, demonstrating assertive security posture.

2. India and Multilateral Diplomacy

This theme focuses on India's role and influence within international institutions and groups.

- **Key Areas:**
 - **UN Reforms:** Pushing for changes within the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to make global governance more representative.
 - **Climate Action:** Leading initiatives within forums like G20 and through the International Solar Alliance.
 - **Economic Governance:** Shaping discussions on global economic recovery, debt sustainability, and trade principles in G20, BRICS, and SCO.
 - **Capacity Building:** Utilizing Indian expertise in health, skills, and food systems to aid other developing nations.
- **Topics:**
 - The role of G20 in shaping discussions on global challenges after India's presidency.
 - India's advocacy for a permanent anti-terrorism task force within the SCO.
 - Progress on the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).
 - India's role in shaping global AI standards through participation in summits like the AI Action Summit in Paris.

- **Keywords:** Multipolar World Order, Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, G20, BRICS, SCO, UNSC Reforms, International Solar Alliance, Global Biofuels Alliance, South-South Cooperation.
- **Events (2025):**
 - AI Action Summit in Paris (February) where India committed to ethical AI in defense.
 - COP 29 Climate Conference in Baku where global funding for low-income countries was a major issue.
 - India-UN Global Capacity-Building Initiative launched in August.

3. Emerging and Deep Technologies Affecting India's National Security

This theme explores the intersection of cutting-edge technology and national security imperatives.

- **Key Areas:**
 - **Cybersecurity:** Addressing increased AI-enabled cyberattacks, ransomware, and the protection of critical infrastructure.
 - **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Integration of AI in defense operations, threat assessment, logistics, and ethical considerations.
 - **Quantum Technology:** Preparing for a post-quantum era and developing secure communication systems for the military.
 - **Space Technology:** The role of space-based assets in surveillance and communication for national security.
- **Topics:**
 - The weaponisation of generative AI for sophisticated cyber threats and the corresponding AI-powered defense mechanisms.
 - Security challenges posed by 5G and future 6G networks and the need for secure communication infrastructure.
 - Supply chain security for critical technologies like semiconductors and electronic components.
 - Ethical debates surrounding the development and use of AI-enabled autonomous weapon systems.
- **Keywords:** AI in Defense, Cybersecurity, Quantum Computing, Space Tech, Critical Information Infrastructure Protection (CII), Zero Trust Architecture, Weaponised AI, Cyber Crisis Management Plan.

- **Events (2025):**

- A surge in state-linked AI cyberattacks globally, including those reportedly targeting telecom and government networks.
- Enforcement of the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA) 2023, requiring businesses to enhance data security and compliance.
- Ministry of Defence declaring 2025 as the 'year of reform', focusing on tech-advanced forces.

4. Dual-Use Technology and Indigenisation

This theme focuses on developing indigenous technological capabilities, especially for technologies with both civilian and military applications.

- **Key Areas:**

- **Defence Manufacturing:** Boosting domestic production to reduce import dependency (Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative).
- **Critical Minerals & Semiconductors:** Securing supply chains and developing indigenous chip fabrication plants.
- **Biotechnology & Health Tech:** Advancements in vaccine development, personalized medicine, and 3D bioprinting with potential dual-use implications.
- **Green Energy & Mobility:** Innovation in green hydrogen, EV batteries, and renewable energy for energy independence.

- **Topics:**

- The role of the private sector and startups in India's growing defense industrial complex.
- Export control policies (SCOMET) to balance trade facilitation with national security concerns regarding sensitive technologies.
- Public-private partnerships (PPPs) in R&D for critical technologies like clean energy and health.
- Leveraging initiatives like Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) to foster indigenous innovation.

- **Keywords:** Atmanirbhar Bharat, Dual-Use Technology, Indigenisation, Defence Industrial Corridors, SCOMET Policy, DRIIV, Critical Minerals, Semiconductor Ecosystem, Defence Exports.

- **Events (2025):**

- India records significant growth in domestic defence production and exports in the 2024-25 fiscal year.
- Development of new chip fabrication plants to reduce import dependency amidst global supply chain disruptions.
- Ongoing trade agreement negotiations focusing on technological and energy cooperation.

5. Non-Traditional Security: Food, Climate, Water, Soil, Cyber Security, etc.

This theme addresses broad, interconnected security challenges that extend beyond traditional military threats.

- **Key Areas:**

- **Climate Security:** Impacts of extreme weather events (e.g., typhoons) and the global push for climate-resilient infrastructure.
- **Food Security:** Challenges to food systems, agricultural development, and ensuring resilient supply chains amidst global disruptions.
- **Water & Soil Security:** Sustainable water management and addressing soil degradation as national priorities.
- **Cyber Security:** As highlighted in Theme 3, the ongoing threat of AI-driven cyber warfare affecting all critical sectors (finance, health, government).

- **Topics:**

- India's role as a first responder in humanitarian and disaster relief missions in the Indian Ocean Region (e.g., Operation Sadbhav).
- The 30th anniversary of the UN's Fourth World Conference on Women, highlighting the link between gender parity and economic/national development.
- The intersection of non-traditional security challenges with India's diplomacy in forums like BRICS and G20.
- Ensuring the security and resilience of digital infrastructure for essential services (e.g., health, finance).

- **Keywords:** Non-Traditional Security, Climate Change, Food Systems Resilience, Water Scarcity, Soil Health, Cyber Resilience, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Gender Parity.

- **Events (2025):**
 - UN's emergency operations providing meals in conflict zones like Gaza, highlighting global food insecurity.
 - Ongoing global discussions and protests at COP 29 regarding climate funding for vulnerable nations.
 - Increased focus on data privacy and protection through regulations like DPDP

Submission guidelines:

All submissions shall follow the editorial policies available at the CNSS website.

The submissions should be addressed to the Editorial Board.

The submissions should be submitted via email at publications_cnss@msruas.ac.in as an attachment in doc format only.

The subject line shall say “For Favour of Publication”.

JULY EDITION

- **Notification for call for Abstract:** 15 December 2025
- **Submission Deadline of Abstract:** 15 January 2026
- **Notice of Abstract Selection:** 25 February 2026
- **Submission of Papers:** 30 April 2026
- **Editorial Review and Feedback:** 20 May 2026
- **Edited Paper Submission:** 31 May 2026
- **Issue Release:** July 2026