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2014

The U.S.-India Strategic Partnership and the Iranian Nuclear Challenge

Center on Contemporary Conflict

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School.

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PASCC

PROJECT ON ADVANCED SYSTEMS AND CONCEPTS
FOR COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

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. 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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The U.S.-India Strategic Partnership and the Iranian Nuclear Challenge

Performers: New York University and Brookings India

Principal Investigator: Barnett Rubin and W.P.S. Sidhu

Cost: \$68,661

Fiscal Year(s): 2014-2015

Objective:

Iran's nuclear weapons program has the potential to undermine the existing but fragile nonproliferation regime while also posing a hurdle to an improved U.S.-India strategic partnership. To overcome these challenges, India could utilize its historic relations with Iran to curtail Iran's nuclear ambitions. This alternative approach could ease India's accommodation into the nonproliferation regime, moderate multilateral and unilateral sanctions, and prevent countries from resorting to military options.

This project looks at India as a lynchpin state between the existing nuclear order and the developing world, with Iran posing the fundamental challenge. The project will explore and assess the prospects of India using its high-level and multifaceted engagement with Iran to support U.S.-led nonproliferation efforts in regard to Tehran's nuclear program.

Approach:

NYU's Center on International Cooperation (CIC) and Brookings India will provide an assessment and scoping report on prospects for engagement with India on tackling the Iranian nonproliferation challenge. Researchers will interview key Indian policy and decision makers and provide a final report.