Indian Foreign Policy and its Neighborhood Training Course

Professional Development Training Course Outline

Category	Political Science and International Relations	**Duration**	5 Days
Base Fee	$1,500 USD	**Delivery Mode**	Online / On-site Hybrid

Course Introduction

Indian Foreign Policy and its Neighborhood Training Course offers a comprehensive deep dive into the **evolving dynamics of Indian foreign policy** and its crucial relationships with neighboring countries. It's designed to provide participants with a nuanced understanding of India's strategic imperatives, historical legacies, and contemporary challenges in an increasingly complex geopolitical landscape. By exploring the core principles and policy shifts from **non-alignment to multi-alignment** participants will gain critical insights into how New Delhi's foreign relations are shaped by a confluence of domestic, regional, and global factors. The program emphasizes a pragmatic approach, focusing on key diplomatic tools, economic statecraft, and security cooperation that define India's role as a major regional power.

This course is not just an academic exercise but a practical toolkit for navigating the complexities of modern diplomacy. It dissects India's "Neighbourhood First" policy, analyzing its successes and limitations through detailed **case studies on key bilateral relations** with Pakistan, China, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka. Participants will learn about the strategic significance of the Indian Ocean, the challenges posed by cross-border terrorism, and the opportunities for regional integration through initiatives like BIMSTEC and SAARC. The curriculum integrates the latest trends in **digital diplomacy and public outreach**, ensuring a holistic and up-to-date understanding of India?ÇÖs foreign policy apparatus.

Programme Curriculum

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Course Duration

5 days

Course Objectives

1. **Analyze India's foreign policy evolution**, from Nehruvian idealism to contemporary strategic autonomy.
2. Deconstruct the **determinants of Indian foreign policy**, including geography, history, and economic interests.
3. Evaluate the **"Neighbourhood First" policy** and its implications for regional stability.
4. Master the principles of **Indian diplomacy and statecraft** in the 21st century.
5. Assess India?ÇÖs complex **bilateral relations with key neighbors** like Pakistan and China.
6. Understand India's role in **regional organizations** such as SAARC, BIMSTEC, and the IORA.
7. Examine the **challenges of cross-border terrorism** and internal security on foreign policy.
8. Explore India?ÇÖs **maritime strategy** and its growing role in the Indian Ocean region.
9. Identify opportunities for **economic cooperation and connectivity projects** in South Asia.
10. Analyze the impact of **geopolitical shifts** on India's strategic partnerships and alliances.
11. Develop a framework for **foreign policy analysis** using real-world case studies.
12. Understand the **role of public and cultural diplomacy** in shaping India?ÇÖs global image.
13. Acquire insights into the future trajectory of **India's rising global influence** and its regional leadership.

Organizational Benefits

- Equip personnel with a deeper understanding of India?ÇÖs geopolitical context and strategic objectives.
- Develop stronger negotiation and communication skills for engaging with Indian counterparts.
- Anticipate and prepare for policy changes and regional tensions by understanding their drivers.
- Gain valuable insights into economic policies, trade agreements, and investment opportunities in India and its neighborhood.
- Cultivate a workforce with expertise in international relations, regional studies, and political risk analysis.
- Stay ahead of competitors by leveraging a sophisticated understanding of the South Asian political economy.

Target Audience

1. Government Officials and civil servants working in foreign affairs, trade, and defense.

2. Corporate Executives and business development managers focused on the Indian market.
3. Journalists and policy analysts covering international relations and South Asia.
4. Academics and researchers in political science, history, and international security.
5. Non-profit Leaders and NGO professionals engaged in development or humanitarian work.
6. Military and Defense Personnel
7. Diplomatic Cadre and embassy staff of foreign missions in India.
8. Students and aspiring professionals seeking careers in foreign service, think tanks, or international organizations.

Course Outline

Module 1: Foundations of Indian Foreign Policy

- Historical roots of India's foreign policy, from ancient traditions to post-independence ideology.
- **Jawaharlal Nehru's vision** of non-alignment and its relevance today.
- Key determinants of foreign policy: geography, economy, culture, and national interest.
- The role of institutions and individuals in foreign policy formulation (MEA, NSA, PMO).
- **Case Study:** The evolution of India?ÇÖs nuclear policy and its diplomatic challenges.

Module 2: India's "Neighbourhood First" Policy

- Principles and evolution of the "Neighbourhood First" doctrine.
- Assessing the challenges and opportunities of regional cooperation.
- The role of connectivity projects: BBIN, Chabahar Port, and other economic corridors.
- Understanding the dynamics of India's soft power and cultural diplomacy.
- **Case Study:** The Bhutan-India relationship as a model of a stable and enduring partnership.

Module 3: India and Pakistan: A Complex Relationship

- A historical overview of the India-Pakistan relationship, from partition to the present.
- The core issues: Kashmir, terrorism, and cross-border infiltration.
- Analyzing the role of non-state actors and the military in Pakistani politics.
- Economic dimensions and the potential for trade normalization.
- **Case Study:** The Balakot airstrike and its implications for India's counter-terrorism strategy.

Module 4: India and China: Competition and Cooperation

- The historical trajectory of India-China relations, from "Hindi-Chini Bhai-Bhai" to border conflicts.
- Analyzing the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and the strategic significance of the Himalayas.
- The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and its impact on India's neighborhood.
- Economic interdependence and geopolitical rivalry.
- **Case Study:** The Doklam standoff and its lessons in diplomatic de-escalation.

Module 5: India's Relations with South Asian Countries

- In-depth look at relations with Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Nepal.
- Understanding the challenges of ethnic, political, and economic interdependence.
- The role of shared heritage and cultural ties in diplomatic engagement.
- Analyzing the impact of Chinese influence on India?ÇÖs relationships in the region.
- **Case Study:** India's handling of the Sri Lankan economic crisis and its "Vaccine Maitri" initiative with neighboring countries.

Module 6: Maritime Security and the Indian Ocean Region

- The strategic significance of the Indian Ocean for India's national security and economy.
- India's maritime strategy and naval modernization.
- The concept of the Indo-Pacific and the role of the Quad
- Challenges of piracy, illegal fishing, and strategic presence of other powers.
- **Case Study:** The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its strategic implications.

Module 7: India and the World: Global Governance and Multi-alignment

- India?ÇÖs role in multilateral forums: United Nations, G20, and BRICS.
- India's stance on key global issues: climate change, trade, and nuclear disarmament.
- The policy of multi-alignment and balancing relations with major powers
- Understanding India's quest for a permanent seat in the UN Security Council.
- **Case Study:** India?ÇÖs position on the Russia-Ukraine conflict and its diplomatic balancing act.

Module 8: The Future of Indian Foreign Policy

- Emerging trends in diplomacy: digital diplomacy, public outreach, and diaspora engagement.
- The role of technology in shaping foreign policy: cybersecurity and AI.
- Analysis of future challenges and opportunities for India?ÇÖs rise as a global power.
- The strategic vision of India at 100 (Amrit Kaal).
- **Case Study:** The G20 Presidency and its impact on India's global leadership narrative.

Training Methodology

The course will employ a dynamic and interactive training methodology to facilitate practical learning and skill development. It will combine:

- **Expert-Led Lectures:** Delivered by subject matter experts, former diplomats, and senior academics.
- **Interactive Discussions:** Fostering a collaborative environment for critical analysis and debate.
- **Real-world Case Studies:** Applying theoretical concepts to real-time diplomatic and strategic challenges.
- **Simulations and Role-playing:** Participants will take on roles of key stakeholders to practice negotiation and diplomatic skills.
- **Guest Speaker Sessions:** Featuring insights from prominent policymakers and industry leaders.
- **Multimedia Resources:** Utilizing documentaries, news clips, and historical footage to enrich the learning experience.

Register as a group from 3 participants for a Discount

Send us an email: info@fineskilltrainingcenter.org or call *+254769199797*

Certification

Upon successful completion of this training, participants will be issued with a globally- recognized certificate.

Tailor-Made Course

We also offer tailor-made courses based on your needs.

Key Notes

a. The participant must be conversant with English.

b. Upon completion of training the participant will be issued with an Authorized Training Certificate

c. Course duration is flexible and the contents can be modified to fit any number of days.

d. The course fee includes facilitation training materials, 2 coffee breaks, buffet lunch and A Certificate upon successful completion of Training.

e. One-year post-training support Consultation and Coaching provided after the course.

f. Payment should be done at least a week before commence of the training, to Fineskill Training Center account, as indicated in the invoice so as to enable us prepare better for you.

Upcoming Scheduled Sessions

Start Date	End Date	Location	Price
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Online	$1,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$1,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$3,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$4,500
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000
23 Nov 2026	27 Nov 2026	Physical	$6,000

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