



Afghanistan Crisis: India

Igor Podjanin

E-mail: igorpo@ethz.ch

1 General Information

The world's second-most populous country, India, is situated in South Asia and bounded by the Indian Ocean as well as the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Constitutionally a federal parliamentary republic, it is also the world's largest democracy. The Republic of India is marked by a highly multi-ethnic and multilingual society.

2 Role in the UNSC

In spite of being the second most populous country worldwide after China, India does not assume a permanent seat in the Security Council. For the 8th time in total, India took over the UNSC presidency from France for August 2021 as a non-permanent member. Ireland was to follow in September 2021 to preside over the UNSC. The next Indian presidency will take place in December 2022. Permanent members of the UNSC Russia and France have officially congratulated India for joining the UNSC, with the former stating it is "truly impressed by the [Indian] agenda, which embraces global issues." In fact, India is determined to contribute to the SC by organising multiple high-level meetings on maritime security, peacekeeping and counter-terrorist measures. Moreover, India supports the main points on the SC's agenda, including the Middle East, Mali and Somalia.

India's Ambassador to the UN, T. S. Tirumurti, strives to use its non-permanent seat to show to the international community why India should receive a permanent seat.



Fig. 1: Map of India

3 Position to the Afghanistan Conflict

India has been calling for a central role of the UN in Afghanistan. It underscores the very fragile situation in Afghanistan. In particular, India expresses concerns over terrorist activities and urges the international community not to allow the use of the Afghan soil to train terrorists. Likewise, India has thanked the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan for their work and is expressing its will to support the people of Afghanistan in laying the foundations for sustainable peace and development.

In context of another ongoing crisis - the political situation in Belarus - the Indian Deputy Representative to the UN has affirmed that any discussions of internal affairs of a sovereign state must be objective and best avoided, unless they have significant regional or international implications. The Representative underscores that his country's relations with other states stand on their own merit and are not being affected by any external factor. The situation in the country is considered to remain "largely peaceful and stable", while India wishes to continue its "friendly and cordial relations" with Belarus.

4 References

- 1 Tracking India's relationship with the UN
<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/india-presidency-united-nations-security-council-1836417-2021-08-04>
- 2 Map of India
<https://www.worldatlas.com/maps/india>

- 3 In August, India Aims to Use Its Security Council Seat to Show Why It Should Be Permanent
<https://www.passblue.com/2021/08/02/in-august-india-aims-to-use-its-security-council-seat-to-show-why-it-should-be-permanent/>
- 4 Afghanistan Crisis: Key Information
<https://www.sem.admin.ch/sem/en/home/asyl/afghanistan.html>
- 5 India assumes UNSC presidency: This is what Russia, France have to say
<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/india-assumes-uns-c-presidency-this-is-what-russia-france-have-to-say-11627794766574.html>
- 6 Statement by Ambassador T. S. Tirumurti, Permanent Representative
<https://www.pminewyork.gov.in/IndiaatUNSC?id=NDMzOQ,,>
- 7 UNSC Arria Formula meeting on the situation in Belarus
<https://www.pminewyork.gov.in/IndiaatUNSC?id=NDM4MA,,>