

Foreword

It gives me great pleasure to introduce Vivekananda International Foundation's (VIF) new publication, National Security. It is a serious, academic and policy publication that will fill a void in the field of security studies in the country. I am confident that in the coming months it will become the leading forum for discussion and analysis of India's security challenges and policies, covering both traditional and non-traditional issues.

National Security will serve as a platform for policy analysts and scholars who want to make an original argument or provide a new interpretation of events. It would also be open to experts who want to critically assess India's security approaches and policies. India has always been a peace-loving responsible power, and the world increasingly sees it as such and values its stature and growing global role. Given the increasing uncertainties and strategic rivalries emerging in the world order, India's voice, opinions, policies could become a source of stability. National Security would enable us to reach out to the world.

Vivekananda International Foundation is an independent, non-partisan think tank which is guided by Swami Vivekananda's message of Harmony in Diversity, which remains relevant in today's fractured world.

I congratulate the Editor and his team for bringing out this excellent publication that will add to the growing stature of the Vivekananda International Foundation as a policy think tank.

Arvind Gupta
Director, VIF

Editor's Note

It is a proud moment for the Vivekananda International Foundation to publish a new policy-oriented publication called *National Security*, focused on understanding the trends in India's increasingly complex national security environment. While several journals specialise on India's military security issues or foreign policy, a serious refereed policy oriented academic journal with a wide perspective on security does not exist. *National Security* would attempt to fill that void.

Security along with order are the principal *raison d'être* for the state. All other crucial political values –freedom and rights, justice, equality and welfare – are dependent on the provision of basic human and territorial security. Its meaning has been much debated in recent decades and has gradually evolved to encompass both traditional and non-traditional issues. *National Security* hopes to provide holistic analysis and informed debates keeping such a meaning in view. It also hopes to meet the needs of an international readership that is increasingly interested in India's security policies as its role in world affairs grows.

National Security would have broadly two sections – an opinion and debate segment; the other a peer reviewed research section. Four issues would be published annually.

I would like to thank profusely all the authors and reviewers for their contributions.

The Director VIF, Dr. Arvind Gupta, has provided constant support to the publication. The editorial committee has been a major source of ideas, resources and strength. Finally, there are three others who made the inaugural issue possible -- Research Associate Aayush Mohanty, who tirelessly helped with the organization, communication and multiple other tasks; Jyothi Nair who came up with multiple designs for the cover before we got what we wanted; and Krishan Redhu who got the manuscript formatted and composed for publication. My sincere thanks to all of them. We hope the readers will find *National Security* valuable.

Sujit Dutta
Editor, *National Security*