

ST JOSEPH'S UNIVERSITY
BANGALORE

A Brief Report on the G20 Summit University Connect Lecture

On the 20th of October, 2023, a momentous event unfolded at St Joseph's University as the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, in collaboration with the Research and Information System (RIS) for developing countries, brought forth the G20 University Connect Lecture Series. This unique and ambitious initiative, a flagship 'Jan Bhagidari' endeavour introduced by the Indian Presidency of the G20 Summit, aimed at fostering awareness among students about the priorities, nature of deliberations, and key outcomes of various G20 processes, with a specific emphasis on the Indian G20 Presidency in 2023.

The G20 University Connect programme engaged over 1 lakh students from universities across India. St. Joseph's University became the 100th University to host the initiative.

A captivating lecture on the Indian G20 presidency was presented by Retired Ambassador J.S. Mukul, who shared profound insights, stated, "non-alignment was the appropriate policy in a particular context; that context was a bipolar world. We have not moved away from non-alignment; what has happened is the context has changed."

The intellectual discourse continued with Prof. Narendar Pani, Dean of the School of Social Sciences at NIAS Bengaluru, who delivered a lecture on "India Tomorrow: World Perspective." He provided valuable insights into the shifting dynamics of power, remarking, "The very way power is used itself, there is a very substantial difference that we tend to ignore, and that's the difference between power as a form of control and power as a form of influence."

Soon after, the Q&A Session was held, moderated by Mr. Syed Ali, Consultant for Research and Information System for Developing Countries received several questions from students and faculty alike on India's role in the global stage as well as India's non-alignment stance in geopolitical issues.

The programme came to an end with a shared lunch and a group photo, uniting dignitaries, staff, and dedicated student organisers. The G20 University Connect Lecture Series enriched attendees, emphasising global cooperation.

The event was organised by a collaborative effort of the Public Relations Office, the Office of International Affairs and PR Interns of St Joseph's University.

For the Images of the G20 Summit University Connect Lecture, kindly refer to the Photo Gallery: <https://sju.edu.in/gallery/78>