

ABOUT THE HOST ORGANIZATION - NALANDA UNIVERSITY

Nalanda University is an avant-garde University set up under the Ministry of External Affairs, Govt. of India to revive the glory of ancient Nalanda University and is supported by the 17 countries of the East-Asia Summit. Nalanda has been recognized as an Institution of National Importance. Nalanda University was established to emulate the ancient Buddhist university of Nalanda (Nalanda mahavihara), which functioned between the 5th and 13th centuries. The idea to resurrect Nalanda University was endorsed in 2007 at the 2nd East Asia Summit by the sixteen member countries.

RATIONALE AND BACKGROUND OF THE SEMINAR

Nalanda University, revived as a global center of learning rooted in India's civilizational ethos, stands as a symbol of dialogue, cultural exchange, and knowledge-sharing. In the 21st century, as India redefines its global identity, youth engagement through soft power, diplomacy, and policy innovation is indispensable.

The International Seminar series initiated by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports provides an opportunity to situate Nalanda University at the forefront of these conversations. By integrating India's heritage of knowledge diplomacy with contemporary policy debates, Nalanda can contribute substantively to shaping youth leadership for a multipolar world. "Aano bhadra krtavo yantu vishwatah" (Let noble thoughts come to us from all directions) this timeless Vedic ideal underpins Nalanda's philosophy of open dialogue and cross-cultural learning.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Young Scholars, practitioners, and policymakers below the age of 35 years from around the world are invited to submit original research papers based on the themes given in theme section. The following are illustrative of the scope of the seminar and are not meant to be exhaustive.

INDIA ON THE WORLD STAGE: SOFT POWER, POLICY AND YOUTH DIPLOMACY

March 26th - 28th, 2026

SUB-THEMES

- ✔ Youth diplomacy for a sustainable and just world; youth climate advocacy
- ✔ Cultural and educational diplomacy in the Indo-Pacific
- ✔ Role of youth in humanitarian and environmental diplomacy
- ✔ Heritage, Conservation & Cultural Corridors and Civilization
- ✔ Dialogue, Diplomacy and Peace
- ✔ Translation and Narratives; multilingual public diplomacy, literary exchanges, soft power and digital humanities.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Authors who wish to present their research at the seminar must submit the extended abstract in the following format:

Title of the paper, names, affiliations and emails of authors, extended abstract of 2000 - 2500 words, and 4-5 keywords in Times New Roman font size 12, single spaced. Email id and contact number of corresponding author should be given as a footnote. All accepted extended abstracts will undergo the peer review and upon acceptance will be published as the compendium. Acceptance of abstracts implies the work will be presented in the conference and at least one author will attend the conference.

[Submission Link](#) for abstracts

PARTICIPATION

Young scholars under 35 may register using the link below. There is no participation fee; accommodation and travel expenses will be borne by the participants.
<https://forms.gle/tUFPiDKadrVa4LYW9>

IMPORTANT DATES

FEBRUARY 24, 2026	FEBRUARY 28, 2026	FEBRUARY 20, 2026	MARCH 26-28, 2026	MAY-JUNE 2026
Extended Abstract submission deadline	Abstract review and acceptance notification	Confirmation of keynote speakers and panelists	Seminar execution	Publication of conference proceedings / edited volume

Accommodation and Travel

Accommodation and travel for participants whose papers will be accepted for the presentation will be supported by the Host (Nalanda University).



SUBMISSION LINK FOR ABSTRACTS

