



Title: Virtual Consultative Dialogue on Academic Cooperation

Event Date: March 18, 2026

Venue: Online

Moderator: Dr. Faisal Javaid, Senior Vice President, CAPES

A high-level virtual consultative dialogue on academic cooperation was conducted by the Consortium for Asia Pacific & Eurasian Studies (CAPES) and MGIMO University. The event brought together representatives from 20 of the leading academic and research institutions from across Pakistan. The dialogue aimed to explore practical avenues to strengthen academic collaboration and advance institutional linkages between Pakistan and Russia.

The session commenced with introductory remarks by Prof. Dr. Alexander Nikitin, Director of the Institute for International Studies at MGIMO University. He provided a comprehensive overview of the university's research initiatives and international engagement programs. He particularly highlighted the "Inter-Russia" Fellowship Program as a significant platform for academic exchange. He encouraged Pakistani scholars and professionals to pursue bilateral academic collaboration. This was followed by an address by Dr. Gul-i-Ayesha Bhatti, Director, Eurasia Chapter CAPES, who introduced the organisation. She underscored the initiatives and ongoing efforts by CAPES to enhance Pakistan-Russia bilateral relations.

The dialogue then transitioned into an interactive session where representatives of participating institutions shared their recommendations to enhance academic collaboration between Pakistan and Russia. Pakistan's higher education sector was well-represented with participants from over 20 universities and academic institutions. Notable members included;

No.	Name	Designation & Institutional Affiliation
1.	Dr. Faisal Javaid	Senior Vice President, CAPES; Head of Department, International Relations, Federal Urdu University of Arts, Science and Technology, Deputy Director ORIC, FUUAST, Islamabad
2.	Dr. Khuram Iqbal	President CAPES; Associate Professor, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.
3.	Dr. Gul-e-Ayesha Bhatti	Director, Eurasia Chapter CAPES; Assistant Professor, NUST Islamabad
4.	Dr. Sundas Khizar	Research Fellow CAPES, University of Sargodha
5.	Dr. Umer Sardar	General Secretary CAPES, Lecturer NDU

6.	Dr. M. Shareh Qazi	Assistant Professor, University of the Punjab
7.	Dr. M.Irfan Ali	Assistant Professor, University of Central Punjab
8.	Dr. Shehryar Khan	Head of Department of International Relations, Iqra University, Islamabad Campus
9.	Dr. Uzma Naaz	Head of Department of International Relations, Minhaj University, Lahore
10.	Dr. Maimoona Rasool	Assistant Professor, FAST University, Islamabad
11.	Dr. Akram Zaheer	Assistant Professor University of Okara
12.	Dr. Sobia Jamil	Assistant Professor, NUST
13.	Dr. Imrana Begum	Associate Professor, NED University, Karachi
14.	Dr. Shabbir Ahmed Khan	Professor, Area Study Centre, University of Peshawar
15.	Dr. Sobia Hanif	Assistant Professor, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi
16.	Dr. Sarwat Rauf	Head of Department of International Relations, NUML University
17.	Dr. Asim Farooq	Head of Department at the Centre of Excellence in Transportation Engineering, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology, Haripur
18.	Dr. Qudsia Akram	Assistant Professor, Kinnard College University, Lahore
19.	Dr. Usman Askari	Chairperson Department of Politics and International Relations, UMT Lahore
20.	Dr. Ekaterina Gavrishyk	Director External Linkages, University of Okara
21.	Dr. Muhammad Sohaib	Lecturer, University of Okara

The session was moderated by Dr Faisal Javaid, Senior Vice President, CAPES, and served as an important platform to facilitate engagement between MGIMO University and Pakistan's higher education sector.