

## ISAS - EUC SEMINAR

### THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE RISE OF CHINA AND INDIA

Professor Rajendra K. Jain

Centre for European Studies

Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

#### Abstract

The rise of China and India is unparalleled in human history because never before has the world witnessed the simultaneous and consistent takeoffs of two nations, accounting for more than one third of the planet's population, which have been consistently registering high growth rates for two decades. China has already trebled its share of world gross domestic product (GDP) and India has doubled it. Both these giant economies of Asia are regaining a considerable part of their share of world GDP that they had lost during the two centuries of European colonialism. Their rise has profound implications for the world economy and world politics.

The rise of China and India has led to worries about Europe's economic future as enthusiasm for economic globalisation is waning in the West. China – the workshop of the world – is perceived by most Europeans as a direct and immediate threat to European jobs since it is with China that the European Union has the largest bilateral trade deficit. India is seen as a latent and potential threat taking away service-sector jobs, though pressures would increase as both China and India move up the value chain. China and India feel that European political elites seem to be indulging in a degree of scapegoating about the danger from 'Chindia'.

Rising powers like China and India are increasingly challenging the European Union. They will be in a position to shape and influence global agendas and decisions to a greater extent than in the past, but this will happen in an increasingly contested environment since the emerging powers seek to *change* the prevalent order to facilitate preferred outcomes. Effective multilateralism – the DNA of Europe's political elite – will continue to be elusive.

The rise of China and India represents both challenges and opportunities for the European Union. For both, the European Union will remain an indispensable partner since it is a vital source of trade, advanced technology and foreign direct investment.

#### About the Speaker

Professor Rajendra K. Jain is Professor of European Studies, and Chairperson of the Centre for European Studies, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India. He has been Visiting Professor at Leipzig, Freiburg and Tuebingen University, and at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme, Paris.

Professor Jain is the author and editor of 30 books and has published 80 articles and chapters in books.

He has most recently published *India and the European Union: Building a Strategic Partnership* (2007) (editor).

#### Seminar Details and Registration

- Date** : Monday, 29 September 2008
- Venue** : Seminar Room, Asia Research Institute  
Level 10, Tower Block  
469A Bukit Timah Road  
Singapore 259770
- Time** : 4.00pm - 5.30pm  
(Registration starts at 3.45pm)
- Participation** : Free-of-Charge
- Dress code** : Office Attire
- Please complete and send the attached response form to Ms Vinitha (ISAS) at:
- Fax** : (65) 6314 5447 / (65) 6776 7505
- Email** : [isasmvp@nus.edu.sg](mailto:isasmvp@nus.edu.sg)
- Closing date** : **Friday, 26 September 2008**  
**5.30pm**