



UNITED SERVICE INSTITUTION OF INDIA – CONSUMER UNITY AND TRUST SOCIETY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is made and entered into as of April 30, 2024, by and between:

The United Service Institution (USI) of India, a non-profit organisation established in 1870 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, with its registered office at Rao Tula Ram Marg, Opposite Signals Enclave, Anuj Vihar, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi, Delhi - 110057, India (hereinafter referred to as :”USI”).

Consumer Unity & Trust Society (CUTS) International, a non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental organization (NGO) registered under the Rajasthan Societies Registration Act, 1958, with its registered office at Bhaskar Marg, Bani Park, Jaipur 302016, Rajasthan, India (hereinafter referred to as "CUTS").

WHEREAS, USI is a national security and defence research institution dealing with geopolitics, strategic security, Military heritage, UNPKO, professional skill developments of policy makers and revolution in military affairs.

WHEREAS, CUTS is a public policy research and advocacy group focused on consumer rights, sustainable development, and good governance. CUTS International's Global Affairs centre focuses on the defence, Trade and Strategic issues in the International arena.



USI and CUTS both recognize the increasing importance of understanding the inter-linkages between defence, security, and strategic affairs within and beyond the Indo-Pacific.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing premises and the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:-

1. Purpose:

The purpose of the MOU is to establish a framework for collaboration between USI and CUTS on research, analysis, advocacy, capacity building and networking related to geopolitics and strategic security dynamics and across the Indo-Pacific Region, with a specific focus on:

- 1.1 Evolving security threats: this includes maritime security concerns, non-traditional threats like cyber-attacks and terrorism, and the impact of emerging technologies like artificial intelligence on warfare.
- 1.2 Defence postures: this emphasizes analyzing military capabilities of regional players and how they might influence regional stability or escalation.
- 1.3 Good governance and development: this underscores the link between responsible governance, human rights practices, and economic prosperity with long-term regional security.
- 1.4 Economic Security: this broaden focus on research in the economy and trade for a resilient supply Chain, prosperous growth, countering neo-colonist approach for stability and security in the region.
- 1.5 Strengthening global strategic collaboration: to address common issues related to business, and help reach out to Governmental bodies in both countries and leverage global networks to facilitate strategic issues, defence trade including SMEs and tech companies to help them to match-make and collaborate.

These elements provide a more comprehensive framework for collaboration between USI and CUTS, focusing on the complex and interconnected security and defence landscape within the Indo-Pacific Region.



2. Areas of Collaboration:

USI and CUTS agree to collaborate in the following ways:

- 2.1 Conducting joint research projects on topics related to the areas of focus outlined in section 1.1
- 2.2 Provide constructive inputs for policy-formulation.
- 2.3 Promote awareness and informed public debate on defence, security and strategic dimensions of India in the Indo-Pacific Region.
- 2.4 Co-organise workshops and seminars to discuss and disseminate research findings on defence, security, and related issues in the larger Indo-Pacific Region.
- 2.5 Sharing relevant research findings, publications, and expertise to further the understanding of the inter-linkages between defence, security, economy and strategy in the broader Indo-Pacific.
- 2.6 Developing and implementing capacity building programs for stakeholders, including policymakers, civil society organisations, and the public on the mentioned focus areas.
- 2.7 To organise scenario-based strategic crises games and table top exercise.
- 2.8 Any other areas mutually decided.

3. Funding and Finance

Nothing in this MOU for bilateral agreement shall be taken as creating any financial obligation for either Party, all financial matters will be mutually and expressly agreed by the Parties on case to case basis.



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4. Terms and Termination:

This MOU will be effective from the date of execution by both parties. This MOU may be terminated by either party upon 30 days' written notice to the other party.

5. Confidentiality:

The parties agree to maintain the confidentiality of all non-public information received from the other party under this MOU.

6. Dispute Resolution:

Any dispute arising out of or in connection with this MOU shall be settled through mutual consultation.

7. Entire Agreement:

This MOU constitutes the entire agreement between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof and supersedes all prior or contemporaneous communications, representations, or agreements, whether oral or written.

8. Amendment

This MOU may be amended only by a written agreement signed by both parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this MOU as of the date first written above.

Maj Gen BK Sharma, AVSM, SM** (Retd)
Director General
United Service Institution (USI) of India
Rao Tula Ram Marg, Opp Signals Enclave,
Vasant Vihar, New Delhi-110 067

30 Apr 2024.

Mr Pradeep S Mehta
Secretary General
Consumer Unity and Trust Society
(CUTS)