

Speaker 6: Sundeep Waslekar
President, Strategic Foresight Group, India

Sundeep Waslekar is President of Strategic Foresight Group, a think-tank based in India with global reach. Under his leadership, the Strategic Foresight Group has advised governments around the world and produced analysis and policy recommendations that have been discussed in august bodies including the Indian Parliament, the European Parliament, UK Houses of Commons and Lords, United Nations, Alliance of Civilizations, League of Arab States, World Economic Forum and others.

Sundeep is known for conceptualising innovative ideas for global and societal change. He is a pioneer of Track Two diplomacy processes in South Asia, a pioneer of the scenario planning methodology for countries and regions and an early advocate of the G-20 architecture of global governance. He is the author of three books on governance – The New World Order (1991), South Asian Drama (1995), Dharma-Rajya: Path-breaking Reforms for India's Governance (1998) - and several of SFG research reports on global and regional futures – including An Inclusive World (2007), Cost of Conflict in the Middle East (2009). He has been involved in parallel diplomatic exercises to find common ground in times of crisis. He has facilitated dialogue between Indian and Pakistani decision makers and Kashmiri leaders, heads of Nepalese political parties, and in the wake of 9/11, between the leaders of Western and Islamic countries.

He has been a faculty member of the World Economic Forum and addressed its annual meetings at Davos and regional meetings in the Middle East. He serves as a visiting faculty for all major institutions of the Indian defence forces including the National Defence College, Army War College, College of Air Warfare, College of Naval Warfare and the College of Defence Management. Sundeep has been quoted, reviewed, interviewed and published in at least a thousand newspapers, websites and television channels including the BBC World Television, CNN, Newsweek, International Herald Tribune, Financial Times and The Guardian, most of the major newspapers in India, Pakistan and the Gulf, and national media in some 60-70 countries. Sundeep was educated at Oxford University on a scholarship awarded in a worldwide competition. He has travelled to almost 50 countries for consultations with senior leaders.