# CONCEPT NOTE

**Discovering Central Europe and the Asia-Pacific:**

**Harnessing the future of Poland-Sri Lanka Relations through Multi-Track Diplomacy and Responsible Business**

The Departments of International Relations and Economics from the Faculty of Arts, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka in collaboration with the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw, Republic of Poland intend to conduct a Discovering the Regions conference and a Teatime dialogue session.

The Co-Chairs of the Conference and Teatime Dialogue session are Dr. Maneesha S. Wanasinghe- Pasqual, Department of International Relations and Professor D. A. C. Suranga Silva, Department of Economics, University of Colombo, will co-host the multi-country delegates for the conference titled “Discovering Central Europe and the Asia-Pacific: Harnessing the future of Poland-Sri Lanka Relations through multi-track diplomacy and responsible business”.

*The Teatime Dialogue* will be held on 4th November afternoon between University of Warsaw academics and Colombo University academics and think-tank representatives. However, the major event will be on the 5th November. It involves Ministerial-level delegates (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Director for Asian Affairs, a representative from the Ministry of Entrepreneurship), Diplomats (Polish Ambassador to New Delhi and the Honorary Polish Consul to Sri Lanka) representing the Republic of Poland, along with academics from the Universities of Warsaw and Torun, and the CCO of LOT Polish Airlines as they interact and exchange ideas in the multiple sessions.

*Day One of the Conference* under the broad theme ‘Discovering the Regions through Multitrack Diplomacy and Responsible Business’, explores ties and lessons from the two regions. It will commence with the symbolic exchange of the signed MOU between Universities of Warsaw and Colombo. The panel discussions, with panelists from Ministries, industry representatives and academics from Poland and Sri Lanka, will focus on ‘Multi-Track Diplomacy, ‘Responsible Business’, ‘Higher Education Opportunities’ and ‘Responsible Business Prospects and Eco-Tourism’.

*Day One of the Conference* is designed to be inclusive to a wide audience consisting of senior academics, graduates and undergraduates from the University of Colombo, representatives from the Ministries, and tourism and business sectors.

*Day Two of the Conference* is an invitation-only series of session to focus on more scholarly presentations and discussions on specific topics. This more selective seminar entails paper presentations from senior academics from the Faculty of Political Science and International Studies, University of Warsaw, Poland and from the Department of International Relations and the Department of Economics, Faculty of Arts. The Day Two seminar on “Academic Sessions on the Asia-Pacific and Law and Justice” will entail two sessions – one on ‘Understanding the Asia-Pacific’ and the second on ‘Concerns in Law and Justice’ – with presentations and discussions by experts in the field. A dinner for the special invitees will take place on the end of day two.

**AGENDA**

**Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS), University of Colombo, Sri Lanka**

**5th November 2019**

# Discovering Central Europe and the Asia-Pacific: Harnessing the future of Poland-Sri Lanka Relations through diplomacy and business

**Inauguration Session (9:00 am – 10:30 am)**

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| 08:30 – 09:00 | Registration & screening of “*Sri Lanka – Poland International Relations*”  |
| 09:00 – 09:10 | Welcome Dance and Group Photo |
| 09:10 – 09:16 | National Anthems of Poland and Sri Lanka |
| 09:16 – 09:20 | Welcome Address – Dr. Maneesha Wanasinghe Pasqual, Head, Department of International Relations |
| 09:20 – 09:30 | Keynote Address – Senior Professor Chandrika N Wijeyaratne, Vice Chancellor Colombo University, Sri Lanka |
| 09:30 | Exchange of MOU between Vice Chancellor, University of Colombo and the Prof. Jakub Zajaczkowski, University of Warsaw |
| 09:30 – 09:40 | Guest of Honor Inaugural Remarks H.E. Mr. Maciej Lang, Deputy Foreign Minister of the Republic of Poland |
| 09:40 – 09:50 | Distinguish Guest Remarks – Mr. Michał Fijol, Chief Commercial Officer of LOT Polish Airlines  |
| 09:50 – 10:00 | Cultural Event |
| 10:00 – 10:10 | Vision Statement – Senior Professor Premakumara de Silva, Dean, Faculty of Arts |
| 10:10 – 10:15 | Special Guest Remarks – Prof. Jakub Zajaczkowski, Faculty of Political Science and International Affairs, University of Warsaw, Republic of Poland  |
| 10:15 – 10:20 | Vote of Thanks – Professor Suranga Silva, Department of Economics |
| 10:20 – 11:15  | Refreshments & Screening of “*Sri Lanka – Poland International Relations*” |

**Panel Discussion Sessions: Multi-Track Diplomacy, Education & Responsible Business Session II: Panel Discussion I** *Professor Suranga Silva (Moderator)*

## 11.15 – 12:15: Multi-Track Diplomacy through Responsible Business

* + Dr. Michal Buszko, Department of Finance, Torun University
	+ Prof. Aranka Ignasiak-Szulc, Vice-Dean for International Relations, Nicolaus Copernicus University in Torun (Poland)
	+ Mr. Kishu Gomes, Chairman, Sri Lanka Tourism Promotion Bureau
	+ Mr. Kumar De Silva, Chairman Sri Lanka Convention Bureau
	+ Mr. Primal De Silva, General Manager Sri Lankan Aviation College

**Session II: Panel Discussion II**  *Nirmali Wijegoonawardana (Moderator)*

## 12:15 – 01:15: Multi-Track Diplomacy and Education

* + Mr. Michał Fijol, Chief Commercial Officer of LOT Polish Airlines
	+ Professor Jakub Zajaczkowski, University of Warsaw
	+ Ms. S.D.K. Semasinghe, Director General, Europe and Central Asia Division Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sri Lanka
	+ Mr. Johanne Jayaratne, Chairman Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
	+ Ms. Alina Krecis (Author)

## 01:15 – 02:00: Lunch & Exhibition

**Sessions III: Panel Discussion III**

 *Dr. Maneesha Wanasinghe - Pasqual (Moderator)*

## 02:05 – 03:05: Multi-track diplomacy and Cross-Cultural Education

* + Prof. Sirimal Abeyratne, Department of Economics, University of Colombo
	+ Rev. Professor Wimalaratne, Department of Economics, University of Colombo (TBC)
	+ Dr. Dorota Heidrich, University of Warsaw
	+ Dr. Sashika Manorathne, Director International Unit of the University of Colombo

**Sessions III: Panel Discussion IV** *Professor Suranga Silva (Moderator)*

## 03:05 - 4:00: Responsible Business Prospects and Eco-Tourism

* + Mr. Michał Fijol, Chief Commercial Officer of LOT Polish Airlines
	+ Mr. Upali Ratnayake, Director General, Sri Lanka Tourism Development Authority
	+ Ms. Achini Dandunnage, Senior Manager Sri Lanka Convention Bureau
	+ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the Sri Lanka Association of Inbound Tour Operators (SLAITO)
	+ H. E. C.A.H.M Wijeratne, Sri Lankan Ambassador to Poland

## 04:00 – 05:00 pm – tea and networking session

**AGENDA**

## Faculty of Graduate Studies (FGS) Board Room 1, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

**6th November 2019**

## Day 2: Discovering the Regions: Seminar on Law and Justice and the Asia-Pacific

**Session 1: Introduction of themes and session objectives**

* 09:00 – 09:20: Welcome & Introduction of session objectives
	+ To gain insights into the current research interests of participants
	+ To find researchers with similarities to co-write
	+ To find potential publishers to publish co-authored articles

**10:00 – 10:20: Refreshments (during session)**

## Session II: Understanding the Asia-Pacific

* 09:20 – 09:35: “Defining the Asia-Pacific” by Prof. Jakub Zajaczkowski
* 09:35 – 09:50: “Historical Analysis of South East Asian Region” by Chaminda Padmakumara

- 09:50 – 10: 10: Q&A

* 10:10 – 10:25: “Tourism and the Asia-Pacific” by Dr. Suranga Silva
* 10:25 – 10:40: “Maritime Diplomacy” by Senior Prof. Nayani Melegoda

- 10:40 – 11:00: Q&A

* 11:00 – 11:15: “South-China sea” by Ms. Krishanthi Wimalasiri
* 11:15 – 11:30: “BRI: Good governance and trans-boundary impacts” by Kulani Wijayabahu

- 11:30 – 11:50: Q&A

* 11:50 – 12:20: Confirmation of article titles, authors, timeline and potential publisher

**12:20 – 01:00: Lunch**

## Session III: Concerns in Law and Justice

* 01:00 – 01:15: “Transitional Justice Initiatives and Measures - in Search for Coherence and Effectiveness” by Dr. Dorota Heidrich, University of Warsaw
* 01:15 – 01:30: “Peace building through human security” by Dr. Ajith Balasooriya

- 01:40 – 01:50: Q&A

* 01:50 – 02:05: “Shattered Silk: restoring justice” by Dr. Maneesha Wanasinghe-Pasqual
* 02:05 – 02:20: “Restorative Justice: the non-judicial approach” by Menik Wakkumbura

- 02:20 – 02:40: Q&A

* 02:40 – 02:55: “Diaspora outreach policies of Sri Lanka” by Pavithra Jayawardene
* 02:55 – 3:10: “International system and law” Thrishali Asha and Shakthi De Silva

- 03:10 – 03:30: Q&A

* 03:30 – 04:00: Confirmation of article titles, authors, timeline and potential publisher
* **03:00 – 04:00: Refreshments (during session) Dinner for invited participants**