

Knowledge Corridors for Peace and Development across the Silk Road

Roundtable Discussion

The Silk Road has historically remained one of the most significant trade routes and means of connectivity and communication between the East and West. Despite the world moving towards more efficient means of trade, the Silk Road has been an important channel for China and other Asian countries like Korea, Japan, India, Afghanistan etc. With the creation of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) by China, this ancient trade route finds itself at the heart of the proposed integration model, connecting stakeholders all over the world.

This panel seeks to discuss the need for, and importance of, establishing a knowledge corridor and communication network that generates, shares and disseminates knowledge, to increase harmony and cooperation within the region while facilitating trade under the BRI. It also aims to elucidate what an ideal knowledge corridor would look like; what kinds of knowledge will be shared and made available; and how it would facilitate trade and peace within the region. It also aims to highlight the importance of a knowledge corridor within the region for moving towards regional and trans-regional integration, in today's world of big data, for the success of the BRI.

Some questions that the panel aims to tackle are:

1. What is the link between knowledge, peace and development?
2. Is there an appetite for a knowledge corridor across the Silk Road?
3. How will a knowledge corridor contribute to peace and development within the region, with or without the BRI?
4. How will the BRI and knowledge corridors integrate and work together?

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