

About the Visakhapatnam

Visakhapatnam, popularly referred to as Vizag, is named after God Vaishaka. With a busy port and a natural harbour, it is home to a shipbuilding yard, an oil refinery, a steel plant and other major industries. It is the only place on the east coast where the hills and the sea meet. Indubitably, it is the crest jewel of coastal cities. Visakhapatnam is one of the choicest destinations for tourists seeking sea-front thrills, daring adventures, tranquil atmosphere and a bracing climate. For, the city offers entrancing beaches. At Lawson's Bay, Rushikonda and Bhimili in particular, the shallow and crystal-clear waters are good for swimming, surfing and bathing. The 25-km coast-hugging stretch of the road from Visakhapatnam to Bhimili is simply breathtaking. Better known as Bhimili, it is in the second oldest municipality in the country. Bhimili is also known as Hollander's green. Located about 8 km north of Visakhapatnam on the Vizag-Bhimili Road, Rushikonda offers a superb slice of serenity. The azure blue water of the virgin beach will invite you to spend hours soaking in the sea. The place has hill cottages overlooking the grand vista. Today, Vizag embraces its past and present seamlessly, making it an interesting and attractive city to spend holidays and is accessible to the world by all means of transport.

Important Dates

Last Date of abstract Submission	: 31 st March, 2025
Last Date for Registration	: 31 st March, 2025
Last Date for Submission of Full Paper	: 03 rd April, 2025
Seminar Date	: 04 th April, 2025.

Paper Submission Guidelines:

1. Authors are invited to contribute abstracts (250-300 words) of their papers with five to six keywords.
2. The entire paper must be in ONE DOCUMENT created in MS Word. The length of the full paper should be between 3500 – 5000 words. Contributors will use Times New Roman font. Font size should be 16 points for the title, 14 points for sub title, 12 points for rest of the text and spacing 1.5.
3. Authors should provide a brief biographical note clearly indicating full name, designation, affiliation & contact details.
4. Please send your abstract and full paper at seminarondemocracymdiversity@gmail.com

Publications: The selected research paper will be published in UGC CARE Journals/Peer-Reviewed/ Refereed Journal or with ISBN. All rights of selection/rejection of papers are reserved with the paper review committee.

Registration Fee:

No Registration Fee for Participants

On request accommodation can be arranged in the University guest house (on payment basis)

Note: Without registration and attendance, certificates Shall not be issued.

Registration Procedures

Scan me for
Registration

Participants willing to register for the Seminar, are requested to fill in the registration form by clicking on the link below.

<https://forms.gle/PKquM9R6G8qzehf19>



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ANDHRA UNIVERSITY

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*One Day International Seminar
On*

**DEMOCRACY, DIVERSITY,
AND
CHANGE IN INDIA AND EUROPE.**

04th April, 2025



Funded by
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Organized by
**Dept. Of Political Science
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College of Arts & Commerce
Andhra University, Visakhapatnam – 530003

In Collaboration with

**INSTITUTE FOR DEMOCRATIC ENGAGEMENT
AND ACCOUNTABILITY FOUNDATION**

About the Seminar

India, as the world's largest democracy, faces unique challenges in balancing its pluralistic society, which is home to myriad languages, cultures, religions, and ethnicities. These challenges are compounded by the rise of populism and religious nationalism, which test the nation's democratic values and its commitment to secularism and pluralism. At the same time, India's vibrant democracy offers significant lessons in how electoral processes, civil society movements, and social reforms can address issues such as caste discrimination, gender inequality, and economic disparity. Europe, on the other hand, is marked by its historical democratic traditions, but faces new and profound challenges, such as rising populism, nationalist sentiments, and migration crises. The European Union, with its unique governance model, presents both an example of regional integration and a microcosm of tensions between national sovereignty and collective European values. While both India and Europe share democratic frameworks, their responses to populist movements, migration, and the pressures of globalization diverge significantly.

Diversity in both India and Europe plays a central role in shaping their political landscapes. In India, diversity is a defining feature of the national identity, but tensions arise when political, social, or economic policies fail to accommodate the interests of various minority groups. The caste system, religious divides, and regional disparities create significant challenges in ensuring equal representation and opportunity for all citizens. Europe's diversity, influenced by centuries of migration, colonization, and intercontinental exchanges, is increasingly being tested by the growing presence of refugees and migrants, as well as the rise of anti-immigrant sentiment in some parts of the continent. As both regions strive for greater inclusion and representation, issues such as multiculturalism, integration, and the protection of minority rights take centre stage in debates about the future of democracy.

In the face of these complexities, both India and Europe are undergoing significant changes in their political and social landscapes. Economic disparities, technological advancements, and the global shift towards climate change and sustainability are reshaping political discourse and governance. In India, the digital transformation offers new opportunities for democratic participation and governance but also presents challenges regarding privacy, digital literacy, and the regulation of social media platforms. Europe, too, grapples with similar issues, balancing the benefits of technology and innovation with the need for robust protections against misinformation, surveillance, and data exploitation. Moreover, both regions are witnessing the growing influence of social movements, driven by citizens' demands for more inclusive and responsive governance. Movements advocating for gender equality, racial justice, environmental sustainability, and the rights of marginalized groups have gained momentum, influencing public policy and democratic practices.

This International Seminar aims to foster a deeper understanding of the intertwined concepts of democracy, diversity, and change in India and Europe, offering opportunities for comparative analysis and cross-regional dialogue. Through shared learning, both regions can gain insights into effective practices for strengthening democratic institutions, addressing the challenges of diversity, and adapting to the forces of change that shape their futures.

About Jean Monnet Module (EUROPEAN UNION – ERASMUS+)

Jean Monnet Module titled "Democracy, Multiculturalism & Challenges in the European Union" under Erasmus+ Programme deals with institutions, structures and processes that have shaped the nature and structure of the contemporary Europe Union through cases and studies that focus primarily on issues related to Europe and are significant for India as well. Both Europe and India are pluralistic global communities that share a lot – antiquity, traditions, histories, past, cultures, plurality and cultural diversity, both are democracies committed to human rights, independent judiciary, and free press. The Module attempts to understand the structure and dynamics of social, culture, political and economic institutions in India and Europe.

Sub-Themes:

International Relations: India and Europe
Democracy, Institutions & Changes
Globalization and Identity
Political parties, Culture and Public Participation
Diversity and Identity Politics
Gender, Equality and Inclusion
Social Movements and Civil Society
Media and Democracy
Social Media and Political Mobilization

About the University

Andhra University is one of the oldest universities in India, known for its quality education throughout the world. Andhra University was established on 26th April, 1926 with a visionary of intellect and par excellence Sir C.R. Reddy as its founder Vice-Chancellor. A notable academician like Prof. Mamidipudi Venkata Rangaiya (Padmabhushan) was the first principal of Andhra University. It is located in a sprawling campus over 500 acres with full of lush green flora and fauna. The former President of India, Dr. Radhakrishnan was the second Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University. The University experienced a sea change in academics under the stewardship of Dr. V.S. Krishna as its Vice-Chancellor who later became Chairman of the University Grants Commission. Dr. Lankapalli Bullayya was a renewed educationist and administrator who worked as Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University. Prof. C.R. Rao, the renowned statistician of the world and the recipient of Padma Vibhushan award (the second highest civilian award in India) was also associated with the University. Our Alumni have occupied highest positions not only in India but also across the globe as Heads of Nations and CEOs of many MNCs. The University in its journey over the last nine decades achieved noteworthy credits in all perspectives. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council, the national body which grades Universities in India, accredited the University was graded by NAAC with Grade A++ with 3.74 in 2023 for seven full years still 2030, which is highest among top three universities in India. Presently, Andhra University attracts students from around the world and boasts a diverse student's body representing 57 countries.

About the Department

Since its inception, Andhra University has been offering courses in Political Science and Public Administration. Initially, the Department of Politics and Public Administration was a part of HEP (History, Economics, Politics) from 1931. Notable academician like Prof. Mamidipudi Venkata Rangaiya (Padmabhushan) was the first principal of Andhra University from our Department. In 1964, it gained independent status under the leadership of Prof. R.V.R. Chandrasekhara Rao, a renowned scholar in Political Science. Prof. K. Venkateswarlu served as Principal, Colleges of Arts, Commerce and Law, Andhra University. Prof. E. A. Narayanaserved as Vice-Chancellor(I/c) and Rector of Andhra University, Vice-Chancellor(I/c) Damodaram Sanjivayya National Law University. Prof. A. Prasanna Kumar served as Rector of Andhra University. Prof. G. Ananda Rao, Prof. A. Venkateswara Rao, Prof. K. Ravi, Prof. D. Suran Naidu, Prof. M. Madhusudhan, Prof. K. Sreeranjani Subba Rao, Prof. K. A. P. Lakshmi, Prof. B. Meena Rao, Prof. M. Nalinivere the faculty members of this Department. The strong alumni base includes prominent figures such as Mr. G.M.C. Balayogi (Former Speaker, Lok Sabha), Dr. Panabaka Lakshmi (Former Union Minister), Tripuraneni Venkataratnam (Former Cabinet Minister, Govt. of A.P.), Mr. Paladugu Venkata Rao (Former Cabinet Minister, Govt. of A.P.), Dr. Rajana Ramani (Former MLA and Mayor of Visakhapatnam), Mr. Samuel, IAS (Former Secretary, Govt. of A.P.), Mr. M. Vijaya Kumar, IPS (Former DGC), Mr. M. Bhupal Reddy, IRS (Commissioner of Income Tax), Mr. Koteswara Rao IRS (Commissioner of Income Tax), Mr. B. Syambabu (Former Secretary, Government of A.P.), and Mr. P. Ramesh Kumar, IAS (Former Chief Information Commissioner, A.P.). Notable political figures like Mr. K.S. Lakshmana Rao (M.L.C, Government of Andhra Pradesh), Mr. Palaparti David Raj (Former MLA), and Dr. K. Ravi Babu (Former MLA and present MLC) are also alumni of the Department. The Department provides M.A. courses in both Political Science and Public Administration, as well as a Ph.D. program in both disciplines.

About the IDEA Foundation

The Institute for Democratic Engagement and Accountability (IDEA) Foundation is an organization committed to promoting democratic governance, transparency, and accountability across various sectors of society. It aims to strengthen the democratic process by fostering active citizen participation, advocating for human rights, and ensuring that public institutions operate in an open and responsible manner. The Foundation works with governments, civil society organizations, and international bodies to encourage reforms, provide educational programs, and enhance institutional frameworks that support democratic values. Through its efforts, the IDEA Foundation seeks to contribute to a more inclusive and just society, where citizens have a meaningful role in shaping the decisions that affect their lives. The Foundation also works on a global scale, partnering with international organizations to exchange knowledge, offer technical expertise, and provide advocacy tools that can be adapted to different political and social contexts. Its work empowers individuals and groups to engage in democratic processes and ensures that these processes are more inclusive, fair, and accountable. Ultimately, the IDEA Foundation envisions a world where democracy is not just a political system but a deeply rooted culture that values the principles of equality, freedom, and justice for all people. Through its initiatives, it strives to build more resilient societies where democratic institutions and values are upheld, and where citizens actively contribute to shaping their future.