

## *Institute of Regional Studies*

34 West, Khalid Plaza, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Jinnah Avenue,  
Blue Area, Islamabad, PAKISTAN, 44000

**ISLAMABAD November 27, 2019:** “China has made serious efforts at reforming the global governance system but the Chinese leadership has reached the conclusion that Western powers are reluctant to give up their privileges in the existing global governance setup,” said



Amb. Hasan Javed, Director of the China Studies Centre in the School of Social Sciences and Humanities at the National University of Science and Technology (NUST). He gave these remarks while speaking at a roundtable on “**Changes in Global Governance Discourse**” organized by the Institute of Regional Studies (IRS) here in Islamabad on Wednesday. Javed further stated that China will neither disengage from the existing international global governance system nor would it confront it head on. He was of the view that China would instead keep floating alternative governance and financial institutions like the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). “China has lost its faith in the existing international system but Chinese leadership would

not make its disappointment obvious,” said Javed.

Javed was of the view that the post-Second World War world order had failed to deliver on its promise and that the UN had failed to achieve any of its stated foundational objectives. He added that 80 million people had lost their lives, mostly in Third World countries since the end of the Second World War and that 99 percent of the killed people in such conflicts were non-Whites. He referred to these figures as a dismal performance of the post-Second World War global order, which, he believed, had increased the gap between the global haves and have-nots.

Javed further maintained that as the U.S. had overstretched itself by spending \$6 trillion on its twenty-first century wars, China had revived itself and had achieved the level of development in 40 years that took the West 400 years. “The U.S. is itself dismantling a system that it had so painstakingly built,” said Javed. Quoting from various historians and political analysts, Javed claimed that a confrontation between the receding and the rising power in such a situation was quite imminent. He further stated that in such a confrontation, Europe could be of little relevance because it was what he referred to as a “house of cards instead of a fortress.” Commenting on Europe, Javed was of the view that the globalized European elite was disconnected from the European population. He referred to Brexit, the rise of right-wing political parties, and subnational movements like the ones in Spain as proof of such a disconnect between the Europe’s reality and the liberal aspirations of its leaders.

Javed was of the opinion that the accumulated global debt of \$800 trillion in comparison with the total global GDP of \$80 trillion was a ticking time-bomb waiting to explode. He shared that most of the global debt was owed by the major Western powers and any financial crisis could lead to a major destabilization of the world.

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Javed listed technological disruption, economy, social capital and soft power, demography, climate change, global leadership crisis, and wars as the major forces that could shape global governance in the years to come. He was of the view that while technological advancement would diminish the importance of demographic strength to a certain extent, demographic strength amid dwindling populations in the developed world would play a role in shaping the future of global governance.

Javed opined that the West needed to stop believing in its own propaganda about China. He was of the view that the tensions between the Chinese government and the Uighur community in Xinjiang were stoked by the external forces. He specifically referred to the role played by English-language teachers coming to Xinjiang and Tibet in creating disgruntlement against the Chinese government among the local populations. "External interference gave rise to ETIM [East Turkestan Islamic Movement]. The objective was to repeat with China what had happened to Soviet Union," he said.



President IRS Dr. Rukhsana Qamber thanked Amb. Hasan Javed for his highly engaging and informative talk. She said that the Chinese were promoting a civilizational dialogue instead of the clash of civilizations promoted by the West. She further said that since communism had been defeated, the West would either confront China or the Muslim world as the enemy to give itself a sense of purpose. She appreciated China for achieving almost all the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) enunciated by the UN.