**Development and Solidarity: Revisiting South-South Cooperation in Times of Polycrisis**

September 13, 2024, 14.00 – 15.30 (IST)

Public Webinar (zoom)

Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS), Colombo

**Introduction:**

South-South Cooperation (SSC) marks an urgency to transcend geographical, political, and economic barriers to smooth and mutually beneficial interactions between countries in the global South. South-South cooperation, which blossomed in the 1940s, intended to disrupt the economic and political dependency and subordination of developing countries embedded in the North-South relations.

The United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC) defines SSC as,

"a common endeavour of peoples and countries of the South, born out of shared experiences and sympathies, based on their common objectives and solidarity and guided by, inter alia, the principles of respect for national sovereignty and ownership, free from any conditionalities. Operationally, South-South cooperation for development is a process whereby two or more developing countries pursue their individual and/or shared national capacity development objectives through exchanges of knowledge, skills, resources and technical know-how and through regional and interregional collective actions..."

Developing countries are currently facing a multitude of crises linked to the fallouts of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change, rapid inflation, debt, and war in Gaza. These crises underscore the urgent need for stronger alliances and cooperation within the Global South, between states as well as non-state actors, such as environmental movements, indigenous movements, feminist movements, disability activists, and labour movements.

In this webinar, panellists are invited to reflect on

* South-South cooperation as an effective medium to promote the developmental aspirations of developing countries based on solidarity and autonomy
* Impact of powerful countries like China and India on South-South Cooperation, possibly reproducing hegemony and domination.
* The role of non-state actors in support South-South Cooperation.

**Panelists:**

**Geopolitics, particularly China factor in South-South Cooperation**

Dr. Amrita Jash, Assistant Professor, Department of Geopolitics & International Relations, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, India

**Feminist Movements and South-South Cooperation**

Trimita Chakma, Manifesto Consultant, South Feminist

**Climate Change and South-South Cooperation**

Dr. Dhanasree Jayaram, Assistant Professor, Department of Geopolitics & International Relations, Manipal Academy of Higher Education, India