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Nuclear Command & Control in Asia as an Indicator of Stability Dynamics and Strategic Intent

Center on Contemporary Conflict

Monterey, California: Naval Postgraduate School

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PASCC

PROJECT ON ADVANCED SYSTEMS AND CONCEPTS
FOR COUNTERING WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency. PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



The CCC has a respected track record for providing research and timely analysis on a variety of topics to leading decision makers in the U.S. national security community. Located in the Naval Postgraduate School, the CCC is the research wing of the Department of National Security Affairs.

Research in Progress describes ongoing PASCC research. For more information, please contact pascc@nps.edu.

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Nuclear Command & Control in Asia as an Indicator of Stability Dynamics and Strategic Intent

Performers: Virginia Tech Applied Research Corporation (VT-ARC)

Principal Investigator: Jerry M. Conley

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Objective:

Pakistan and India are nuclear states both struggling with domestic insurgent threats, bilateral tensions, and increasing concerns over nuclear safety and security. To ensure the non-use of nuclear weapons, improved nuclear command and control (C2) must be further explored as a viable policy consideration for mitigating nuclear risks in Asia.

This research will solicit and integrate the perspectives of technical, operational, and procedural experts in nuclear C2 to assess innovation and viable policy options for promoting safety and security in Pakistan and India. Looking beyond quantitative studies and surveys of delivery systems, this research will address the potential role of C2 as a risk reduction measure for the newer nuclear arsenals in Asia.

Approach:

VT-ARC, together with ANSER's Asia-Pacific Institute, will research country case studies of nuclear C2 stability dynamics to provide a comprehensive framework that communicates the complexities and trends of C2 for future dialogue and discussion. Possible future areas of research include expansion to study C2 frameworks in China and North Korea.