Mongolia – Neutral Ground in the Security Architecture

Session VI

Moving from Confidence Building Measures to Preventive Diplomacy
Topics

Classic Framing Questions

• Sharing opinions on classic questions

  – What is the trend?
  – Why Mongolia should concern about it?
  – What Mongolia can offer to others?
What is the trend?

**Negative Assessment Prevails**

- **Uncertainty among the major powers relations in the region:**
  - Sino – US relation
  - Russo – US relation
  - Sino – Russian relation
  - And middle powers too:
    - ROK
    - Japan

- **Power of Balance changes – Thucydides Trap**
  - New Cold War?
Why Mongolia should concern about it?

Existence is on the Balance of Power

• **Small power**
  – Unable to affect other’s policy
  – Adapting is the key for survival
    • Adapting by balancing

• **Achievements at risk**
  • Democracy
  • Economic Integration
  • International prestige

• **Everything is about the BALANCE**
  • Neighbors: Russia and China
  • Others: Immediate Neighbors and Third Neighbors
  • NEA: North and South Korea
What Mongolia can offer?

A Neutral Ground for Negotiation

- **Mongolian role in the security architecture**
  - Neutral platform for negotiation
  - Soft hub for available for conflicting parties
    - Soft – has no claim
    - Hub – available for all parties

- **Example: Ulaanbaatar Dialogue for NEA Security**
  - Soft hub on non-conflicting topics
    - NEA Women Parliamentarians Forum
    - NEA Capital City Mayors’ Forum
    - NEA Youth Forum
  - Confidence building
Mongolian Role - Neutrality

• **Perpetual Neutrality**
  • Initiated by President of Mongolia
  • Submitted a Law on Perpetual Neutrality

• **Ongoing Debate**
  • Perpetuity:
    – Even in time of war? Can we afford it?
  • Declaration or Restatement Means:
    – Law? Constitution? Shall we tie our hand?
  • Timing and Assumption:
    – Is really the situation is so bad?
Conclusion

• Negative assessment prevails
• Keeping the achievements
  • Democracy
  • Economy
  • International prestige
• Positioning itself as a neutral ground for negotiation
  • Guarantee – Mongolian Neutrality