

STRATEGIC PLENARY IV

Managing Competition, Preventing Conflict:

ROLE OF MIDDLE POWERS



 15TH SEPTEMBER 2026 |  1215 – 1400 HOURS (PST) | TUESDAY

SESSION OVERVIEW

Analysing how middle powers respond to intensifying great-power rivalry through diplomacy, multilateral institutions, and regional cooperation. The scope focuses on their role in maintaining strategic balance, promoting dialogue, and reducing the risks of conflict escalation.



To view speakers’ profile of panelists, click on their names

Ms Tanya Francis (Chair)



Mr Renan De Souza



BRICS and Beyond: Plurilateral Coalitions as Instruments of Hedging in a Bipolarising World.



HE Amb Mathu Joyini



The United Nations as a Restraint: Institutional Reform, Norm-Setting, and Curbing Great-Power Rivalry.



Dr Moeed Yusuf



When Middle Powers Prevent Wars: Crisis Diplomacy, Confidence-Building Mechanisms, and the Limits of Regional Institutions.