

# Global governance has failed: Modi

At G20 meet, PM says crisis in multilateralism is affecting developing nations most

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY  
New Delhi, 2 March

Multilateralism is in crisis today and the failure of the global architecture of governance is affecting developing countries the most, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Thursday in his address to the first foreign ministers' meeting of G20 nations in 2023.

"The architecture of global governance created after the Second World War was to serve two functions: First, to prevent future wars by balancing competing interests; and second, to foster international cooperation on issues of common interests," Modi said in a recorded message to the G20 ministers who are meeting in New Delhi.

The prime minister drew attention to the experience of the past few years, saying the financial crisis, climate change, pandemic, and wars clearly showed that global governance had failed in both its mandates.

He said the tragic consequences of this failure were being faced mostly by the developing countries, and the world was at risk of rescinding on sustainable development after years of progress.

The PM also noted that many developing countries were struggling with unsustainable debt while trying to ensure food and energy security for their people. It is developing countries that are most affected by global warming caused by rich countries, he said. Modi also pointed out how global supply chains have broken down during times of stress and turmoil.

## Focus on Global South

Arguing that no group could claim global leadership without listening to those most affected by its decisions, the Prime Minister said India had tried to give a voice to the Global South at the G20.

Modi underlined that today's meeting was taking place at a time of deep global divisions and as a meeting of foreign ministers, it was only natural for the discussions to be affected by the geopolitical tensions of the day.

"We all have our positions and our perspectives on how these tensions should be resolved," the Prime Minister said.

He emphasised that as the leading economies of the world, the responsibility towards those who are not in this room lay with the G20 nations.

"The world looks upon the G20 to ease the challenges of growth, development, economic resilience, disaster resilience, financial stability, transnational crime, corruption, terrorism, and food and energy security," Modi said, noting that G20 had the capacity to build consensus and deliver concrete results in all these areas.

Meanwhile, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said the knock-on effects of conflict and anxieties over a looming debt crisis had made the current G20 meet a consequential one.

While India has held over a dozen G20 meetings so far, this is the first time all foreign ministers have gathered. The outcome is set to establish a path towards the final G20 leaders' summit in September.



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THE EXPERIENCE OF THE PAST FEW YEARS – FINANCIAL CRISIS, CLIMATE CHANGE, PANDEMIC AND WARS – CLEARLY SHOWS THAT GLOBAL GOVERNANCE HAS FAILED IN BOTH ITS MANDATES

NARENDRA MODI  
PRIME MINISTER

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## PM MODI MOST LOVED OF ALL WORLD LEADERS: MELONI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Italian counterpart Giorgia Meloni at the Hyderabad House, in New Delhi on Thursday. Showering praise on Modi, Meloni referred to him as the "most loved leader around the world"

PHOTO: PTI

## India, Italy seal MoU on defence

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY  
New Delhi, 2 March

India and Italy have cleared the way for a partnership on defence manufacturing focused on joint production, innovation, and design, opening the door for equipment producers from both countries to come together. This has been in the works for the past two years.

On Thursday, the nations signed a memorandum of understanding on defence cooperation.

Both nations have also decided to step up their bilateral relation into a strategic partnership.

Meloni's visit is the first high level bilateral visit from Italy in the past 5 years.

The first female Italian PM, Meloni chose India as her inaugural international visit as a matter of strategic choice, Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra told reporters at a briefing.

# End this war of aggression, Blinken tells Lavrov in first meet since Ukraine conflict

## Blinken says only Russia & China didn't support statement, urges Russia to reverse decision on the New START nuclear treaty

SUBHAYAN CHAKRABORTY & AGENCIES  
New Delhi, 2 March

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken on Thursday said he urged his Russian counterpart Sergei Lavrov to "end this war of aggression" in Ukraine.

The two spoke for less than 10 minutes in what is believed to be their first one-on-one con-

limits on the nuclear stockpiles of both the US and Russia.

His statement opens to questions Russia's support for the common outcome document brought out under India's presidency of the G20. "The chair's statement by India today reiterated the declaration issued by G20 last year in Bali that strongly condemned the war in Ukraine, and



Blinken, the official added, wanted to "disabuse the Russians of any notion that our support (for Ukraine) might be wavering or the support from our allies and partners might be wavering".

## Meetings with Jaishankar

Blinken also met External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar for a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the G20 meeting.

In a press statement, the US State Department said the meeting focussed on shared efforts to elevate and expand cooperation on strategic technology, defense, and industry.

"I told the foreign minister what I and so many others had lost"