



## **INDIA PLATFORM UGENT**

*Meeting 4 October 2008, 12:00 – 17:00*

**Organizers:** India Platform UGent, Ghent University; Director Prof. Balagangadhara Rao.

**Venue of the Meeting:** Research Centre Vergelijkende Cultuurwetenschap, Ghent University, Apotheekstraat 5, B 9000 Gent.

**Representatives of European Universities:** Prof. Dr. Maya Burger, University of Lausanne, Switzerland; Prof. Dr. Gita Dharampal-Frick, University of Heidelberg, Germany; Prof. Dr. Daniel Dubuisson, CNRS, Université de Lille III, France; Dr. Martin Fárek, University of Pardubice, Czech Republic; Dr. Sidsel Hansson, SASNET, Lund University, Sweden; Prof. Dr. Galina Rousseva-Sokolova, Sofia University, Bulgaria; Dr. Lawrence Sáez, SOAS University of London, UK; Prof. Dr. Gurharpal Singh, University of Birmingham, UK; Prof. Dr. Ulo Valk, University of Tartu, Estonia.

**Purpose:** the purpose of the meeting is to explore potential forms of collaboration among a network of European universities, which will have representatives in the General Committee of the India Platform UGent. The India Platform UGent intends to play a coordinating and facilitating role in setting up European collaborative research and educational projects related to India in the humanities and social sciences.

We have already established a network of universities in Karnataka, working towards the creation of the Karnataka Academy of Social Sciences and Humanities (KASSH). This will expand and include universities from other parts of India to become the India Consortium of the Platform.

### **Agenda of the day:**

- 12:00-13:00: meeting and sandwich lunch.
- 13:00 - 13:30: Presentation of the India Platform UGent and the role it intends to play in the European academic study of India and in the Indian academic world, and of its current projects such as the Karnataka Academy of Social Sciences and Humanities and the Centre for the Study of Local Cultures at Kuvempu University.

- 13:30 – 14:30: Brief introduction by each of the representatives of their institution and the research it does related to India (5-10 minutes).
- 14:30 – 15:00: Coffee break.
- 15:00 – 16:00: Discussion of establishing the EU-India consortium for applications to the Erasmus Mundus External Cooperation Window and other programmes. The aim is to prepare a consortium for the next call of the European Commission for collaboration and exchange between European and India Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and discuss the possibility of setting up an Erasmus Mundus PhD Programme of Europe/India Studies.
- 16.00 – 17.00: Discussion of other potential collaboration: e.g. with Kuvempu University and the Karnataka Academy of Social Sciences and Humanities; applications for the FP7 programme of the European Commission; participation in the Rethinking Religion in India and Rethinking Politics in India conference clusters; building of a European master's programme of India Studies.