



EqUIP: EU India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities  
**Symposium on: Social Transformation, Cultural Expressions,  
Cross Cultural Connections and Dialogue**

**Deliverable 2.2 Reflection Report**

Report prepared by:

**Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK**



## Contents

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.....	3
2 INTRODUCTION.....	4
2.1 About EqUIP.....	4
2.2 EqUIP Symposia Series.....	4
2.3 Aims of the Symposia Series.....	5
3 SYMPOSIUM ON ‘SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS, CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS, CROSS-CULTURAL CONNECTIONS AND DIALOGUE’ .....	5
3.1 Scope of the Symposium.....	6
3.2 Structure of the Symposium.....	6
4 THEMATIC SESSIONS.....	7
Theme 1: Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space.....	7
Theme 2: Cross cultural communication and creative expression.....	9
Theme 3: Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity.....	11
5 PRIORITISED RESEARCH THEMES .....	13
6 CHALLENGES OF COLLABERATIVE RESEARCH.....	13
7 CONCLUDING REMARKS.....	15
Annex A. Agenda .....	16
Annex B. List of Participants.....	19
Annex C. Pro Forma .....	21

## 1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Background

The EqUIP Expert Group which met in London on 15th January 2015 identified five themes for the Symposia to be held in India and Europe over the period September 2015 to September 2016. The five themes are as follows:

- A. Inequalities, growth and place/space
- B. Sustainable prosperity, well-being and innovation
- C. Social transformation, cultural expressions, cross cultural connections and dialogue
- D. Power structures, conflict resolution and social justice
- E. Digital archives and databases as a source of mutual knowledge

### Fourth EqUIP Symposium in Gurgaon, India

The fourth symposium, which explored the topic '**Social transformation, cultural expressions, cross cultural connections and dialogue**', was organised by the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the United Kingdom (AHRC). The symposium was held in Gurgaon, India from 28-29<sup>th</sup> June 2016, with the participation of academic experts from both India and Europe. In total, there were 53 registered participants (see Annex B). The overarching aim of the symposium was to define priority areas for future joint India-EU research collaboration in the social sciences and humanities.

### Reflections: Thematic Discussions and Prioritised Areas

Over the two days, three broad themes were deliberated upon:

- Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space
- Cross cultural communication and creative expression
- Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity

The themes were discussed by groups comprising an equal mix of Indian and European scholars, with each group recommending up to three research questions / priorities. Efforts were made to ensure an appropriate balance of representatives at each table. At the end of the three thematic discussions on day one, a total of 45 research priorities were identified which were then grouped by the Convenors. This was followed on the second day by a session exploring the opportunities and challenges associated with collaborative research between Europe and India. A final session was then held, whereby participants were asked to vote for a smaller number of priorities from those identified on day one.

The research priorities identified were:

1. Multiple routes to modernity
2. Governance: architecture, mechanisms and engagement
3. Understanding alternative voices and perspectives of creative expressions
4. Everyday creativity and digital culture
5. Innovative approaches to heritage and communities
6. Implications of migration for economic growth in Europe and India
7. New cartographies of memories, cultures and heritage

## **Potential Opportunities and Challenges in undertaking Collaborative Research**

Experts from India and Europe highlighted some of the challenges that would be encountered when undertaking collaborative research around the theme of Social Transformations, Cultural Expressions, Cross Cultural Connections and Dialogue. The challenges highlighted mainly addressed issues relating to research infrastructure, resources and the difficulties in conducting interdisciplinary work, for example relating to the use of different research methodologies.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

This report is the result of the fourth EqUIP Symposium on Social Transformations, Cultural Expressions, Cross-Cultural Connections and Dialogue held in Gurgaon, India on 28-29<sup>th</sup> June 2016. The production of this report has been led by Adam Walker and Jessica Collier from the Arts and Humanities Research Council of the UK (AHRC), the lead partner delivering the event. The symposium engaged expert researchers in discussions of this theme, all of whom were nominated by participating organisations (see Annex B for a full list of participants).

### **2.1 About EqUIP**

The EU-India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities (EqUIP) brings together research funding and support organisations in Europe and India in order to develop a stronger strategic partnership for multi-lateral research collaboration. Europe and India have strong historical links, but research collaboration is a relatively new practice. EqUIP is linking and building upon successful partner relationships developed at the European level, using the [NORFACE](#) and [HERA](#) European Research Area Networks (ERA-NETs) as a basis for expanding interactions with India. As in those networks, the EqUIP platform is supporting Social Science and Humanities research funding agencies across Europe and India to build stronger strategic partnerships, increase opportunities for networking and dialogue amongst researchers, and explore ways of working to enable future joint research programming. A key element of the work will be to identify opportunities and priorities for future research collaboration. The symposium was designed to achieve the active involvement of scholars both from India and EU partner countries, and a range of disciplinary backgrounds, in exploring this area of common interest for funders.

### **2.2 EqUIP Symposia Series**

Research themes of interest to partners that would benefit from an EU-India perspective/ collaboration for further exploration were identified through an initial scoping exercise with EqUIP partners, and further refined in consultation with an expert group. Five broad thematic areas (see Table 1) were refined and are outlined in full in the [Scoping Report on Existing Collaboration and Future Interests and Opportunities](#).

These broad themes will be further explored and developed through a series of symposia events with the research community. Five thematic symposia will be organised as part of the EqUIP project activities, to inform development of these themes and widen academic networks. The final symposium will bring together the findings from these events. Discussions from each symposium will

be captured in a ‘Reflection paper’ with the aim of guiding future international research collaboration initiatives.

<b>Table 1: EqUIP Priority Themes</b>	<b>Date</b>
Inequalities, Growth and Place/Space	19-20 October 2015
Digital Archives and Databases as a Source of Mutual Knowledge	5-6 May 2016
Sustainable Prosperity, Wellbeing and Innovation	9-10 June 2016
<b>Social Transformations, Cultural Expressions, Cross-Cultural Connections and Dialogue</b>	<b>28-29 June 2016</b>
Power Structures, Conflict Resolution and Social Justice	13-14 October 2016
Final Summary Symposia	25-26 October 2016

### **2.3 Aims of the EqUIP Symposia Series**

The aim of this series of Symposia is to facilitate expert discussions which will develop recommendations to the EqUIP partners about priority areas for future joint India-Europe research activities.

Experts from social science and humanities disciplines, from both Europe and India, were invited to each event to discuss the opportunities and challenges in the relevant thematic area. The symposia aimed to explore the added value in addressing these societal challenges through a distinctly Europe- India research agenda, thereby identifying needs and priorities for future research collaboration to be taken forward by EqUIP partners.

## **3 SYMPOSIUM ON ‘SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS, CULTURAL EXPRESSIONS, CROSS-CULTURAL CONNECTIONS AND DIALOGUE’**

The fourth EqUIP symposium was delivered by the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) from 28-29<sup>th</sup> June, in Gurgaon, India. Gurgaon was selected as a location to reduce a tendency for local delegates to ‘come and go’ more frequently when workshops are held in Central Delhi. Whilst still easily accessible from the airport and Delhi, Gurgaon’s location ensured that the vast majority of delegates were present for the full duration of the symposium. 53 participants registered for the event from Europe and India. These delegates represented a wide range of disciplines and were of both early career and senior academic standing.

### **3.1 Scope of the symposium**

The event explored themes around ‘Social Transformation, Cultural Expressions, Cross-Cultural Connections and Dialogue’, with the themes of identity, language, shared histories, diversities and diasporas at its core. Several areas were initially highlighted as priorities by the expert group involved in the scoping exercise. The priorities were included in the concept note for the event:

- Communication and misunderstanding, cross cultural communication in Europe, in India and across Europe/India
- Migration between Europe and India and the role of diaspora groups in building cultural dialogue and social cohesion and in developing shared histories, identities and forms of creative expression
- Cross cultural contributions to knowledge structures
- Economic, religious and historic linkages between Europe and India across time and space
- Dialogue of cultures and heritage at a creative level including literature, translation, languages, music and art, and cultural identity within local communities
- Representations of each other (Europe-India) in art, literature, social and political imagination
- Media (cinema, television as well as social media and the internet) as a source of communication, representation and understanding / misunderstanding

The symposium explored these themes through three broad group discussions:

- Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space
- Cross cultural communication and creative expression
- Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity

### **3.2 Structure of the symposium**

The symposium was structured to promote as much interaction and networking between experts as possible, in line with EqUIP's objectives of establishing new relationships between experts in India and Europe. The first day began with a networking session, followed by three thematic sessions, where participants were asked to explore these themes in detail and identify up to three research priorities for each.

Each thematic session commenced with a brief introduction from the symposium's expert convenor, Professor Nandini Das, followed by two short talks / provocations introducing key thoughts on the relevant topic - one from an academic from India, followed by an academic from Europe. Group discussions then took place at tables of approximately 8-9 with a balance of experts from Europe and India in each group.

Each group was provided with a pro-forma to record up to three research priorities / issues, as well as a set of sub-questions to help focus and guide conversation (see Annex C). Prior to commencing discussion, the groups were asked, to identify both a chair and rapporteur in order to record key findings and report back to the whole group. EqUIP partners present at the symposium were asked to moderate specific groups throughout the event, taking notes and clarifying process without guiding discussions. Moderators included; Jessica Collier from the Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Dr Jacqui Karn from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Dr Reena Marwah from Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Merethe Sandberg Moe from Research Councils of Norway (RCN) and Goncalo Zagalo from Foundation for Science and Technology (FCT).

On the second day, participants were asked within their groups to discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with collaborative research, particularly relating to Europe-India research in the Social Sciences and Humanities. Finally, participants were asked to reflect on the 45 research priorities identified in the thematic discussions and to rank the priorities in order of importance. In doing so, participants were asked to consider the following questions:

- What are the future priorities for EU-India research collaboration in this area – ensuring research excellence (this means where collaborations between researchers in India and Europe add value and don't duplicate national activities)?
- What is the research capacity?
- Are there factors to consider relating specifically to the social sciences and humanities?
- Are there factors to consider relating to the different geographic areas (e.g. inequalities in India compared to those in European countries)?
- Are there particular opportunities or challenges EqUIP needs to consider?

#### **4 THEMATIC SESSIONS**

Over the two days, three thematic sessions were held, which covered the following research areas:

1. Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space
2. Cross cultural communication and creative expression
3. Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity

##### **4.1 Theme 1: Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space**

The first thematic session was introduced by Professor Tito Marci, University of Rome and Dr Amiya P. Sen, South Asia Institute, Heidelberg. Their presentations aimed to stimulate conversation by introducing key concepts or perspectives relating to the theme. After both presentations had taken place participants were asked, at their separate tables, to discuss and consider two of the four following sub-themes and to identify research questions within them:

- Major transformations in Indian history and Euro-Indian relations
- The role of the past in understanding the present and preparing for the future
- Religion, tolerance and identity over time
- Urbanisation, urban history and heritage

Groups identified the following research priorities within this theme:

##### **Unity and diversity within and across Indian and European societies**

India and Europe's connected history and transnationalism was discussed. This considered issues such as the emancipation movement, the impact of the cold war, and spread of communist ideas. This then led groups to suggest that there needs to be an in-depth understanding of not only India and Europe's unity, but also its diversity. Issues around centralisation, regional diversity, growth of

cities, subnational approaches and de-centralization challenges were given as examples of topics for researchers to explore.

### **How religion and identity is shared over time and space**

One group suggested that there needs to be an in-depth understanding as to how religion and identity is shared in both India and Europe, over time and space. Alternatively, research in this area could be explored in a globalised context. Participants also suggested exploring the role and inter-relationship of religion, ethics and values in social contexts.

### **Governance: architecture, mechanisms and engagement**

Another theme that was discussed across groups was the need to understand the architecture of governance and experiences of political engagement in both India and Europe. The organisation of decision making, and the balance between community-level and national structures, in particular was given as an example. This was deemed to be important, for example, in relation to rural affairs and approaches to governance on matters such as the environment and water.

One of the groups highlighted that the approaches to governance adopted by the West are not necessarily the most appropriate for India, where alternative approaches might be more effective.

### **Multiple routes to modernity**

Groups highlighted that there is no one model of modernity, but multiple ways in which societies may break from a relatively static past and engage in reflexive processes of living. Therefore, research focusing on understanding the distinctions and differences in practices of modernization in India and Europe was seen to be important.

Numerous research questions were put forward in regards to ways of exploring this theme:

- *What part is technology playing in the modernization of contemporary India and how does this relate to experiences in Europe?*
- *Is it possible to imagine a link between democracy, development and modernization outside the liberalist (or neo-liberalist) perspective?*
- *What role has the creative economy had in shaping India's modern economy?*
- *What role has colonialism, social movements, rights based movements, political participation and secular democracy played in achieving modernity?*
- *How have certain communities' histories been transferred into the present?*

One of the important challenges which emerged during this discussion was the issue of creating a funding call designed to compare and explore India and Europe's alternative paths to modernity. Participants questioned the use of comparatives in such projects and highlighted a concern about the way comparatives are normally framed predominantly as forms of dualistic knowledge based on one situation. Accordingly, the group discussed the need to challenge comparatives in their normative sense.



### **Interrogating genealogies, community formation and the perception of multiple identities**

Given the spread of globalization and migration across the globe, one group discussed the perceptions of multiple identities (identifications), and the role gender, orientation, ethnicity and religion play in the formation of identity. Religion was deemed to be a central issue in political identity formation that continues to play a central role in conflicts between ethnic or religious groups, both within and across nation-states. Secularism, in particular, was deemed to be an important topic, as it varies from society to society, therefore a comparative study of different models was suggested.

#### **4.2 Theme 2: Cross cultural communication and creative expression**

The second thematic session was introduced by Professor Abhijit Gupta, Jadavpur University and Professor Jerri Daboo, University of Exeter. Their presentations aimed to stimulate conversation by introducing key concepts or perspectives relating to the theme. After both presentations had taken place participants were asked, at their separate tables, to discuss and consider two of the four following sub-themes and to identify research questions within them:

- Dialogue of cultures and heritage at a creative level including literature, translation, design, languages, music and art, and cultural identity with local communities
- Media (cinema, television as well as social media and the internet) as a source of communication, representation and understanding/misunderstanding
- Representations of each other (Europe-India) in art, literature, social and political imagination
- Communication and misunderstanding, cross cultural communication in Europe, in India and across Europe/India

Groups identified the following research priorities within this theme:

#### **Understanding alternative voices and perspectives of creative expressions**

Groups questioned how multiple standards of success could be adopted to recognise alternate voices and innovations. Conversations also considered the link between the arts and performative traditions and experiences of marginality, exclusion and isolation. They therefore looked at issues such as the role of creative expression in political activism and how comparisons between India and Europe relate to the development of cohesive, productive and sustainable communities.

#### **Everyday creativity and digital culture**

Groups discussed the everyday creativity and digital cultures adopted by both Europe and India. Participants highlighted the opportunity to apply a comparative study focusing on the culture of mobile technology and the dis/empowerment associated with this phenomenon, which may present questions on the notions of openness, opportunity and access. Another example put forward by the

groups was that of conducting comparative research which focuses on the effect digital culture has on everyday practices such as digital bespoke, hybrid practices and digital DIY.

In regards to everyday creativity, comparisons of Europe and India's public spaces was given as an example, as they were deemed to be creative areas, providing space for performance, sculpture, art etc.

Example of potential research questions included:

- *What effect does digital culture have on everyday practices e.g. digital bespoke, hybrid practices and digital DIY?*
- *What part is technology playing in the creative and cultural life of contemporary India?*
- *How can we use technology creatively in designing projects with communities? (Mobile phones, gaming, etc.).*
- *Culture of mobile technology: empowerment or disempowerment?*

### **Languages, translation hegemony and inequality in Europe and India**

One group discussed language translations and their relationship to and impact upon linguistic difference. The presence of inequality and hegemony in translation has not been widely examined, so consideration of how power structures are reflected in our communicative use of language was seen as an important topic.

### **Innovative approaches to heritage and communities**

Digitising resources was the overarching theme discussed across the tables, as it was deemed an innovative and important approach to preserving heritage. Groups associated digitisation with notions of openness, opportunity and access.

Digitisation was largely seen by the groups to be an empowering tool, offering the chance for individuals to have a voice. On the other hand, some groups reflected that there is a need to balance the empowerment that can be derived from giving voices to individuals, with the risk of causing misunderstanding and miscommunication.

Groups highlighted the need to create new methods of digitisation, particularly forms of digital technology that can be used to engage communities with heritage. Other groups highlighted the need to consolidate old methods in order to see how we can preserve heritage using methods that are already established.

The question of whose heritage you decide to preserve was also discussed, as well as how the process can be more inclusive of local communities. Groups suggested the need to collaborate with local communities in order to preserve digital records of local community's histories which can be achieved, for example, by working with local churches and temples.

Numerous questions were put forward in regards to ways of exploring this theme:

- *What forms of creative practice can be developed to bring together communities, policy-makers, urban planners etc in the design of city spaces?*
- *What new forms of digital technology can be made to engage communities with heritage?*
- *How do we understand alternative and creative expressions in new areas in education in Europe and India?*

### **4.3 Theme 3: Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity**

The second thematic session was introduced by two Dr Ellen Bal, VU University of Amsterdam and Dr Saradindu Mukherji, Indian Council of Historical Research. Their presentations aimed to stimulate conversation by introducing key concepts or perspectives relating to the theme. After both presentations had taken place participants were asked, at their separate tables, to discuss and consider two of the four following sub-themes and to identify research questions within them:

- Migration between Europe and India and the role of diaspora groups in building cultural dialogue and social cohesion
- Contemporary socio-political trends and pressures in migration and integration
- Transculturality / minority and endangered languages
- The impacts of migration on intangible heritage, traditions and identity
- The role of cultural diversity in building vibrant and productive communities
- Media perception and cross cultural understandings of migration

Groups identified the following research priorities within this theme:

#### **Migration and identity**

The issue of identity was discussed by the groups, particularly the ways in which identities of migrants are produced, expressed or claimed. This then led on to the groups discussing the ways in which migrants have been represented, particularly within the media. An exploration of the impact the media's perception has had on migrant's identities was suggested as a research topic.

#### **Interrogating historical experiences of migration**

With large scale migration in recent years within Europe and the Indian Sub-Continent, participants highlighted the need for an historical examination of migration and diaspora, in order to more fully understand contemporary migration. Migration and diaspora are terms often associated with the modern era; however the movement of people and communities have been apparent for centuries. Groups highlighted the importance of undertaking an historical analysis of migration as it will allow us to, for example, gain an understanding of the spatial pattern of immigrant origins, and gain a

deeper knowledge and understanding of the varying reasons people have chosen to migrate to (and from) Europe and India.

### **Implications of migration for economic growth in Europe and India**

Throughout this thematic discussion the groups suggested the need for measuring and understanding the effects/implications of migration on host countries and countries of origin. Groups questioned how the economic effects of migration and diaspora could be measured /analysed in terms of their consequences. It was suggested that research in this area might look at ‘taxation’ benefits against ‘contribution’ benefits given by migrants in receiving countries, or the impact of migrants returning to their homeland to work or invest, or sending money back through remittances. There was also a concern that the negative impact of migration on countries of origin such as brain drain should be considered.

### **New cartographies of memories, cultures and heritage**

A further exploration of the implications of migration was put forward in the sense of how the circulation of individuals from different cultures and backgrounds leads to the circulation/flows of ideas, sounds, tastes, foods, music and religion, and the formation of new collective memories. Examples of this occurring are how different ways of cooking have altered peoples’ tastes and how urban landscapes in host countries have changed as a result of welcoming new religions and architectural influences. The groups therefore stressed that research now needs to look beyond the traditional understanding of ‘culture’ to examine the integration of multiple ‘cultures’.

The dispersion of heritage and memories was also discussed by the groups. It was suggested that a way of analysing dispersion in this context was to look at how different generations remember and construct the idea of multiple homelands.

### **Diaspora communities and the idea of ‘home’**

Groups questioned what constitutes “home” for diaspora communities. Members of diaspora communities may be as likely to identify themselves with where they were born, where their parents/grandparents were born, or where they live. Groups considered how “home” may not even be seen as a physical, geographical space, but rather an imaginary space of identity, shaped by personal experiences, memories and relationships. The formation of identity was also discussed by the groups, as individuals moving from one place to another carries with it the chances of shifting identities. Economic, cultural and social forces are a part of the development of migrant’s identities and need to be explored further.

## **5 PRIORITISED RESEARCH THEMES**

During the final session of the symposium, participants were asked by Professor Nandini Das to reflect on the research areas identified on the first day of the symposium, with the aim of prioritising key questions for future Europe – India research collaboration in the social sciences and humanities to be taken forward by the EqUIP partners and funders.

Participants were asked to bear in mind the following questions whilst prioritising areas to be taken forward by EqUIP partners:

- What are the European strengths/research needs/gaps?
- What are the Indian strengths/research needs/gaps?
- What are the strongest areas of current collaboration between India and Europe?
- What are the new or emerging areas for collaboration between India and Europe?
- What are the big cross-cutting issues and challenges?
- Where do we need to build capacity?
- How can we encourage cross-disciplinary approaches across the arts and humanities and social sciences?

The prioritised research themes were as follows:

- a. Multiple routes to modernity
- b. Governance: architecture, mechanisms and engagement
- c. Understanding alternative voices and perspectives of creative expressions
- d. Everyday creativity and digital culture
- e. Innovative approaches to heritage and communities
- f. Implications of migration for economic growth in Europe and India
- g. New cartographies of memories, cultures and heritage

These broad themes will be further explored and developed through a series of symposia events with the research community. Five thematic symposia will be organised as part of the EqUIP project activities, to inform development of these themes and widen academic networks. The final symposium will bring together the findings from these events. Discussions from each symposium will be captured in a 'Reflection paper' with the aim of guiding future international research collaboration initiatives.

## **6 CHALLENGES OF COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH**

A session dedicated to addressing the challenges of collaborative research was introduced by Professor Nandini Das, who detailed the types of challenges she had encountered when conducting collaborative research in her career. Three key challenges were identified: People, processes and infrastructure.

Following Professor Nandini Das's structure, the delegates identified several challenges within the spheres of people, process and infrastructure, that would be encountered when undertaking collaborative research around the theme of Social Transformations, Cultural Expressions, Cross Cultural Connections and Dialogue.

### **Processes:**

1. The groups suggested that funding organisations need to take account of the fact that India and Europe have different and sometimes conflicting processes when funding research.

Gaining Ethical approval was given as an example, as Indian institutions do not usually have ethics committees.

2. Groups highlighted the difficulty in being able to dedicate time to develop proposals within call timeframes if they overlap with holiday/busy periods e.g. the start of the academic year and examination periods.
3. It was stressed that Delhi and other large city Institutions tend to be disproportionately successful in receiving funding. It was suggested partners could promote more equitable distribution across India through call requirements.
4. Fourth, the reporting requirements enforced by funding organisations need to be kept to a minimum; groups argued that this can take more time to complete than is anticipated by funders.
5. Finally, groups recommended broadening funding calls, as they were deemed too often to be pre-defined, usually focusing on a specific, narrow topic.

#### **People:**

1. Groups highlighted the lack of investment dedicated to early career researchers, particularly within the humanities; it was deemed particularly difficult to get funding for early career historians.
2. Conducting interdisciplinary research is encouraged by funders; however groups suggested that bringing various disciplines/departments together to conduct research is complicated. Various preferences for research methodology, different types of language used and the logistical difficulty of meeting and working with academics from different disciplines are complicated and difficult to achieve.
3. Academics highlighted the difficulty in collaborating with creative practitioners; therefore groups encourage EqUIP partners to look at ways in which funding calls can invite these types of collaborations.

#### **Infrastructure:**

1. Groups highlighted the difficulty in embarking on collaborative research, particularly with academics from different countries. A lack of sufficient databases which provide academics with information about which universities have strong international focus, and which academics from those universities share similar research interests and expertise, was identified as a challenge. It was suggested by groups that this work could potentially be undertaken by EqUIP, as it would encourage academics from Europe and India to collaborate.
2. Accessing materials online was deemed to be particularly problematic for those academics from institutions which do not own internet archives.
3. Groups expressed their frustration of obtaining the various necessary visa permissions to conduct collaborative work, and how this process is time-consuming.
4. Finally, groups suggested the need for non-HEI participants to be recognised in research proposals.

## **7 CONCLUDING REMARKS**

Professor Nandini Das expressed her satisfaction at the fullness, breadth and outcomes of the discussions and hoped that delegates found the symposium to be of benefit. The symposium concluded with a note of thanks by Adam Walker to all of the participants for taking the time to participate in the symposium. There was also a note of assurance that feedback from the discussion groups would be analysed and incorporated into the plans of the EqUIP partnership as it prepares for the next phase of activity.

## Annex A. Agenda

Hour	Content	
	<b>27<sup>th</sup> June</b>	
19.00-21.00	Informal Dinner	
	<b>28<sup>th</sup> June</b>	
9.30-10.00	Registration and welcome coffee	
10.00-10.10	Welcome	Dr Nafees Meah, <i>RCUK India</i>  Adam Walker, <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council</i>  Dr Reena Marwah, <i>Indian Council of Social Science Research ICSSR</i>
10.10-10.15	Introduction to Research	Dr Jacqui Karn, <i>Economic and Social Research Council</i>
10.15-10.25	Keynote speech	Professor Nandini Das, <i>University of Liverpool</i>
10.25-11.10	Networking Session	
11.10-11.25	<i>Coffee Break</i>	
11.25-11.30	Symposium objectives and organisation	Adam Walker, <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council</i>
11.30-11.40	Presentation introducing first roundtable thematic discussion: Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space	Professor Tito Marci, <i>University of Rome</i>  Dr Amiya P.Sen, <i>South Asia Institute, Heidelberg</i>
11.40-12.40	<p><b>First roundtable thematic discussion: Historical, economic, social, political and religious linkages between Europe and India across time and space</b></p> <p>Consider the priorities and key research questions in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major transformations in Indian history and Euro-Indian relations</li> <li>• The role of the past in understanding the present and preparing for the future</li> <li>• Religion, tolerance and identity over time</li> <li>• Urbanisation, urban history and heritage</li> </ul>	<p><b>Additional questions to help guide conversation:</b></p> <p>How do we connect local/global initiatives in each of these areas?</p> <p>How do we identify the main and emergent actors in these areas in both India and Europe?</p> <p>What distinctions and differences in the environment and the work undertaken in India and in Europe need to be acknowledged?</p> <p>How can intellectual legacies of shared histories and research between India and Europe be identified and utilized?</p> <p>What is the impact of contested histories in this area?</p>
12.40-13.00	Feedback and Group Conversation	
13.00-14.00	Lunch	
14.00-14.10	Presentation introducing second roundtable thematic discussion: Cross- cultural communication and creative expression	Professor Jerri Daboo, <i>University of Exeter</i>  Professor Abhijit Gupta, <i>Jadavpur University</i>
14.10-15.10	<p><b>Second Roundtable thematic discussion: Cross- cultural communication and creative expression</b></p> <p>Consider the priorities and key research questions in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dialogue of cultures and heritage at a creative level including literature, translation, design, languages, music and art, and cultural</li> </ul>	<p><b>Additional questions to help guide conversation:</b></p> <p>How can we identify and use existing models, either available locally or globally, to inspire new initiatives?</p> <p>What strategies could be adopted to ensure more responsive support for work in these areas?</p>



	<p>identity within local communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Media (cinema, television as well as social media and the internet) as a source of communication, representation and understanding / misunderstanding</li> <li>•Representations of each other (Europe-India) in art, literature, social and political imagination.</li> <li>•Communication and misunderstanding, cross cultural communication in Europe, in India and across Europe/India</li> </ul>	<p>What are the areas of emergent interest? What are the areas where capacity needs to be developed?</p>
15.10-15.30	Feedback and group conversation	
15.30-15.45	<i>Coffee break and networking</i>	
15.45-15.55	<p>Presentation introducing third roundtable thematic discussion: Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity</p>	<p>Dr Ellen Bal, <i>University of Amsterdam</i></p> <p>Dr Saradindu Mukherji, <i>Indian Council of Historical Research</i></p>
15.55-16.55	<p><b>Third Roundtable thematic discussion: Migration, diaspora and cultural diversity</b></p> <p>Consider the research priorities and key research questions in the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Migration between Europe and India and the role of diaspora groups in building cultural dialogue and social cohesion</li> <li>•Contemporary socio-political trends and pressures in migration and integration</li> <li>•Transculturality / minority and endangered languages</li> <li>•The impact of migration on intangible heritage, traditions and identity</li> <li>•The role of cultural diversity in building vibrant and productive communities</li> </ul>	<p><b>Additional questions to help guide conversation:</b></p> <p>How do we trace and interrogate routes of migration? How does existing understanding of local and global human mobility and its implications differ? What are the risks and advantages of making links across local and global pictures? What are the public challenges and responsibilities of research in these areas?</p>
16.55-17.15	Feedback and group conversation	
17.15-17.30	Summary	
19.00	<i>Informal Dinner</i>	
<b>29<sup>th</sup> June</b>		
9.30-9.35	Welcome coffee	
9.35-9.40	Welcome, introduction to the day	Adam Walker, <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council</i>
9.40-9.45	Reflection on day 1	Professor Nandini Das, <i>University of Liverpool</i>
9.45-9.50	Introduction to 'Opportunities and challenges for collaborative research' session	Professor Nandini Das, <i>University of Liverpool</i>
9.50-10.50	<b>Opportunities and challenges for collaborative Europe-India research in the Social Sciences and Humanities</b>	This session will address the opportunities and challenges EqUIP needs to consider in aiming to foster enhanced collaboration in SSH research between Europe and India. To include issues such as institutional blockages, interdisciplinary challenges, access to international funding etc
10.50-11.10	<i>Coffee break and networking</i>	
11.10-12.40	<b>Forward planning and prioritising research areas</b>	Agreement on priority areas to be taken forward
12.40-12.50	Next Steps	Adam Walker, <i>Arts and Humanities Research Council</i>

12.50-13.10	Final discussion with closing remarks from the convenor	Professor Nandini Das, <i>University of Liverpool</i>
13.10	<i>Lunch</i>	

## Annex B. List of Participants

Professor Abhijit Gupta	Jadavpur University, India
Mr Adam Walker	Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK
Dr Aditya Gupta	University of Delhi, India
Professor Aditya Mukherjee	Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
Professor Amiya P.Sen	South Asia Institute, Heidelberg, Germany
Dr Ana Cristina Ferreira Mendes	University of Lisbon, Portugal
Professor Andy Pratt	City University London, UK
Professor Aparajita De	University of Delhi, India
Professor Aparna Rayaprol	University of Hyderabad, India
Professor Arild Engelsen Ruud	University of Oslo, Norway
Miss Christine Ithurbide	Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH)
Dr Daniel Rycroft	University of East Anglia, UK
Professor David Garbin	University of Kent, UK
Professor Ellen Bal	University Amsterdam, Netherlands
Miss Geeny George	Research Councils UK India
Mr Gonçalo Zagalo	Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia, Portugal
Dr Jacqui Karn	Economic and Social Research Council, UK
Prof. Dr. Jerca Vodušek Starič	University of Maribor, Slovenia
Professor Jerri Daboo	University of Exeter, UK
Miss Jessica Collier	Arts and Humanities Research Council, UK
Dr Jules Naudet	Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities, India
Professor K.Jayakumar	Malayalam University, India
Professor Liisa Laakso	University of Tampere, Finland
Prof. Dr. Luca Maria Scarantino	IULM University of Milan, Italy
Mr Mahesh Madhukar	Indian Council of Social Science Research, India
Professor Meenakshi Khanna	Indraprastha College for Women, India
Ms Merethe Sandberg Moe	Research Council of Norway, Norway
Dr Mimi Urbanc	Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy, Slovenia
Professor Mridula Mukherjee	Jawaharlal Nehru University, India
Mr Mriganka Sekhar Sarma	University Grants Commission, India
Professor N. Rajendran	Bharathidasan University, India
Dr Nafees Maes	Research Council UK India
Professor Nandini Das	University of Liverpool, UK
Professor Nanditha Krishna	University of Madras, India
Professor Paul Sermon	University of Brighton, UK
Professor Pramod K.Nayar	University of Hyderabad, India
Dr Reena Marwah	Indian Council of Social Science Research, India
Professor Rowena Robinson	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, India
Dr Sanjay Garg	National Archives of India, India
Professor Saradindu Mukherji	Indian Council of Historical Research, India
Professor Satyajit Singh	University of Delhi, India
Professor Sony Pellissery	National Law School of India, India
Miss Soraya Hamache	Centre for Social Sciences and Humanities (CSH), India
Ms Sumana Chandrashekar	India Foundation for the Arts, India
Professor Supriya Chaudhuri	Jadavpur University, India

Professor Surinder S. Jodhka  
Professor Susana Sardo  
Professor Tito Marci  
Dr Upendra Choudhury  
Professor Ursula Rao  
Dr Vijay Thambanda  
Professor Xenia Zeiler

Jawaharlal Nehru University, India  
University of Aveiro, Portugal  
Sapienza University of Rome, Italy  
Indian Council of Social Science Research, India  
University of Leipzig, Germany  
Kannada University, Hampi, India  
University of Helsinki, Finland

**Annex C: Pro Forma, used in the thematic discussions**

<b>Research Questions</b>	
<b>1</b>	
<b>2</b>	
<b>3</b>	
<b>Further Comments:</b>	