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Veritas et Aequitas

**PROJECT STATECRAFT**

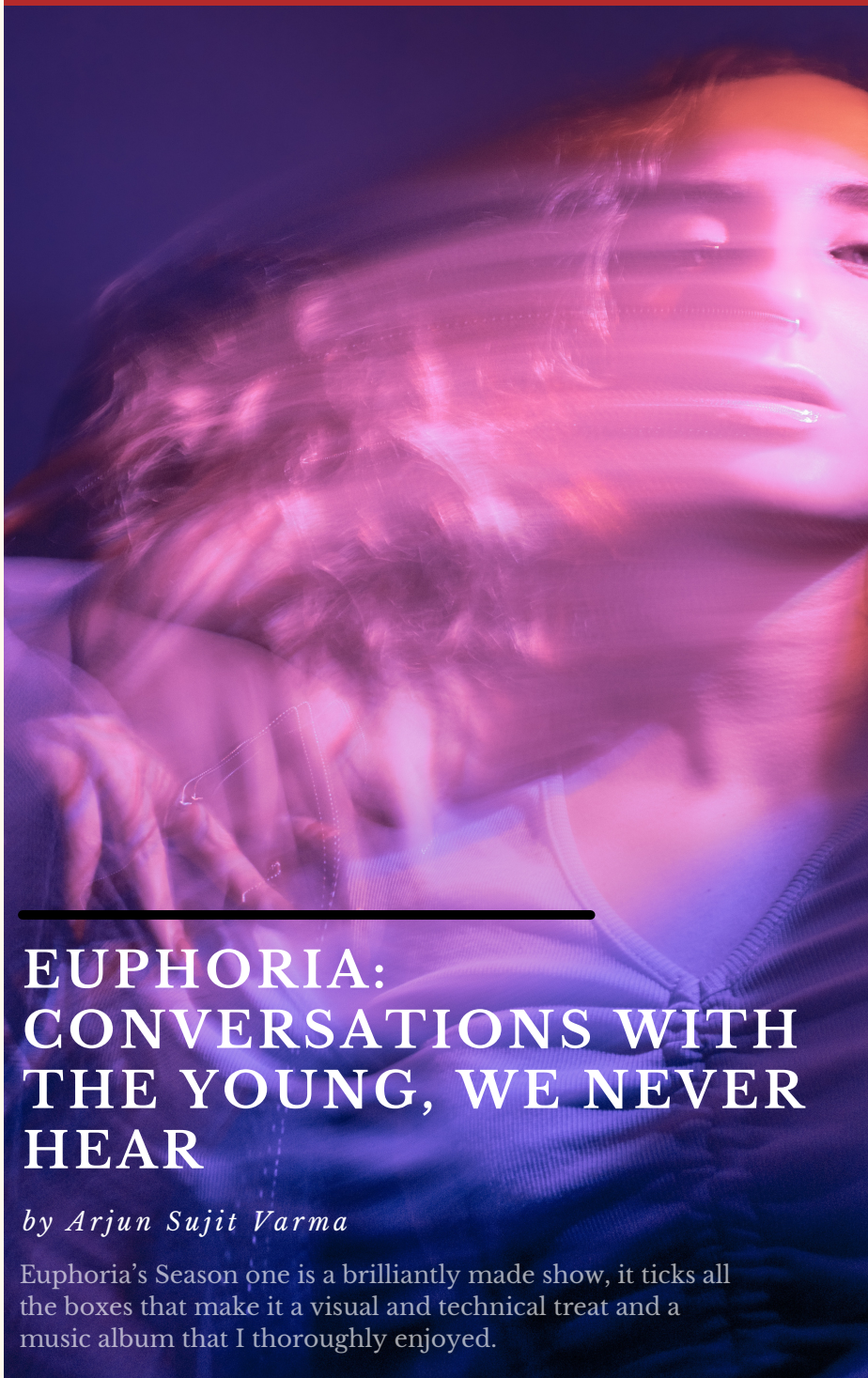
# उन्नITI

March 2022

YOUTH IN POLICY AND DEVELOPMENT

Vol 1 Issue 1

## COVER STORY



## EUPHORIA: CONVERSATIONS WITH THE YOUNG, WE NEVER HEAR

by *Arjun Sujit Varma*

Euphoria's Season one is a brilliantly made show, it ticks all the boxes that make it a visual and technical treat and a music album that I thoroughly enjoyed.

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## CRITICAL ANALYSIS



AYUSHMAN  
BHARAT YOJANA

## GUEST SUBMISSION



A CRITICAL  
ANALYSIS OF THE  
DISCOURSE ON  
CULTURE AND  
PRIVACY IN INDIA

## GUEST SUBMISSION



ZERO  
WASTE  
SHUNYA: THE  
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## EDITOR'S COLUMN



Dear Reader,

With the registration of Project Statecraft as a not-for-profit organization in the section 8 company, it gives me immense pride to announce our first monthly newsletter under the umbrella of Action Labs for Youth in Policy and Education (ALYPE) Foundation. Through this newsletter, we aim to give you a quick roundup of the activities and endeavours of Project Statecraft in the past month, some analyses of policies, opinion pieces, and a few recommendations for our policy enthusiasts.

In this first issue I am happy to mention the stellar external submissions we received for the same and out of them [Towards Shunya: The Zero Waste Lifestyle](#) and [A Critical Analysis of the Discourse on Culture and Privacy in India](#) definitely made the cut for the feature on the newsletter.

Introducing our columns, we have the first piece from our founder and current President of Project Statecraft, Mr. Abhishek Sudke. Through his few words, you will understand the niche we are trying to fill up in the development space and how you as a reader and a changemaker can also help us in our journey.

Next, we have a monthly column Know Your Policy which will give you the key features of a certain government scheme and will also contain the link to a critical analysis of the same. For this month, Nupur Barman and Ashish Bayya have covered the Ayushman Bharat Yojana.



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## EDITOR'S COLUMN



Following this, Jaya Narayan and Dhruv Nilkanth have compiled some books, articles, and video recommendations for you. With short excerpts on each, choose your favorite, click on the link and delve into them.

Finally, we have a column from Arjun Varma titled the Dutch Angle (in cinematography, this refers to a tilted headshot that captures psychological uneasiness or tension in the subject being filmed). For January, he explores the much-talked-about TV series, Euphoria. Tune in to his column every month for a smidgen on pop culture mixed with youth and policy.

In a roundup of some of our pieces from the year 2021, some notable mentions are Mangoes not Kiwis, Women's Empowerment through Food Security: Feminisation of Agriculture? and The Platform Economy and Labour Welfare in Indian Cities: the Case of Ola and Uber Drivers.

To end on an optimistic note, with colleges reopening and the world crawling back to normalcy, we hope that this newsletter will be your guide to the youth development and policy space with a tinge of pop media, culture, and music.

Happy Reading!



Sangyukta Das  
Editor-in-Chief, Project Statecraft

## KNOW YOUR POLICY

Nupur Barman



### AYUSHMAN BHARAT YOJANA

Ayushman Bharat is the largest government-funded healthcare programme in the world with over 50 crore beneficiaries. It has been dubbed as **‘Modicare’**.

It is a centre-sponsored health insurance scheme that provides free coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh per family, per year, at any government or even empanelled private hospitals all over India, for secondary and tertiary medical care facilities.

It provides cashless access to health care services for the beneficiaries.

Under the process, 80% of beneficiaries, based on the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) data in the rural and the urban areas, have been identified.



There is no waiting period for pre-existing diseases. All kinds of diseases are covered from day one of the Ayushman Bharat policy. The benefits cover includes both pre and post-hospitalization expenses.

The expenditure incurred in premium payment is shared between Central and State Governments in a specified ratio.

The NHPS operates around the insurance principle of ‘risk pooling’. In a tax-funded system or a large insurance programme, there is a large risk pool wherein the healthy cross-subsidise the sick at any given time.

*For a critical review of the scheme covered by Ashish Bayya click on ‘Know Your Policy’.*



## FOUNDER'S COLUMN

Abhishek Sudke



### A Junior on Development Street

As the luminous candle in a dark room, the development sector's efforts to address and solve issues illuminate the world in the face of pandemic waves, conflicts, and rising inequality. I'm Abhishek Sudke and I'm a junior on India's development street. As the founder of Project Statecraft, now an initiative of the Action Labs for Youth in Policy and Education, I am privileged to be guiding, strategizing, and leading a team of young people determined to change the face of the earth today and for years to come. Through this column, I will try to give the audience a peek into the happenings in the world of development from the eyes of a 23-year-old, or what we at Project Statecraft like to call - Youth Lens.



Photo by John Schnobrich on Unsplash

We are the innovators, creators, developers, strategists, and watchers of a world which is changing while attempting to alleviate the lives of people living in it. Just like a lively street in India's capital, the development street is full of ventures and initiatives which are bringing impactful change to our ecosystem. Project Statecraft is one of the newest and smallest shops on this street and the opportunities are ripe. While the world looks at us as a group of young ones, we are developing plans and taking steps that could help take the policy and education sectors leaps in the near future.

## FOUNDER'S COLUMN



This year's budget has provided interesting opportunities to further the development of education in India, while the critical analysis of the budget would showcase a synchronization between the education budget and the National Education Policy. We are at a juncture in time where the focus on teacher-student relationships in the classroom is critical. While logistical solutions to fixing the digital divide are being implemented to help provide quality education to the students residing in remote areas and belonging to underprivileged groups, there is a need to fix our pedagogy in schools and colleges.

Young people of my generation believe that change is a constant, we believe in devising an independent path for ourselves. India's youth population is reaching to grasp liberty and freedom in not only speeches and debates but in its approach to life. This is a significant time for the Indian education system as the guidance it provides will define the approach taken by generations to come. Education today needs to focus on creating citizens of change. Citizens, who are aware of their surroundings, who do not hesitate to collaborate with others, who are mindful of themselves, who are able to tell a biased opinion from an unbiased one, who are the problem-solvers and solution builders for the nation and the world. While education creates these citizens, we ought to focus on creating policies and initiatives which include them.

Youth inclusion in governance, policymaking, and change would lead to a large-scale social development owing to the dissemination of knowledge on the significance of our development street. Project Statecraft is committed to this very goal, and we are progressing at a rapid pace. Our team has been successful in developing educational programs with an innovative pedagogy that would help in creating these citizens of change. For the past year, we have also provided a platform for young people to publish their research and are now determined to go steps

further to showcase the ways and impact of including youth.

It's about time that we brought young Indians to the development street and we are ready to give them a grand welcome.

*Stay tuned for the monthly column of the development sector from Abhishek Sudke.*

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Jaya



Veritas et Aequitas

## BOOKS

### *Is the future ready for youth? Youth employment policies for evolving labour markets*

By: Juan Chacaltana and Sukti Dasgupta

The employment of the young generation is critical for social justice and sustainability. This book is a compilation of contributions from the International Labour Organization. It brings together global experiences to discuss youth employment policies necessary for the evolving labour markets. This is a top recommendation for all readers. Must read for students, young professionals, policymakers, NGOs, youth initiatives and enthusiasts of sustainability, youth, development and labour markets.



# MARK CARNEY



## VALUE(S)

Building a Better World for All

### *Value(s) Building a Better World for All*

By: Mark Carney

The author suggests changes for the value system based on his experiences as a banker and economist. The book presents solutions to the previously occurred global financial crises. The main argument of the book is to suggest a new way of looking at value, not from the market perspective but from a human perspective through government, corporate and international action. The book is an excellent read for students, professionals and enthusiasts of economics, finance and public policy.



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## RECOMMENDATIONS

Dhruv Nilkanth



## ARTICLES

### *Need to Strengthen the Role of Public Health Institutions Amidst Corona Virus Pandemic: A Study in India*

Vasantha Gouri

IPE Journal of Governance &amp; Public Policy

<https://www.ipeindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/IPE-JoGPP-Jan-Jun-2021.pdf>

With the recent rise of COVID cases and an imminent fear of a destructive third wave in India, we need to reassess the responsibilities and effectiveness of public health institutions in India. Gouri takes a look back at the Second Wave of COVID-19 in 2021 and presents some key takeaways on the matter.

### *Global Action on SDGs: Policy Review and Outlook in a Post-Pandemic Era*

Yi Cheng, Haimeng Liu, Shaobin Wang, Xuegang Cui and Qirui Li  
Sustainability 13, no. 11: 6461<https://doi.org/10.3390/su13116461>

The 2030 deadline for the Sustainable Development Goals draws closer year by year. Progress, however, has been globally hurdled by the COVID-19 pandemic. The authors provide critical evaluations of SDG-oriented policies from multiple countries, the effect COVID-19 has had on them, and prescribe a way forward in a post-COVID world.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS

Dhruv Nilkanth



## ARTICLES

### *How did India's labor policies fare in 2021?*

Shreehari Paliath

India Development Review Online

<https://idronline.org/article/livelihoods/how-did-indias-labour-and-employment-policies-fare-in-2021/>

A concise review of the past year in labor policies becomes essential as new labor codes make news again. The article gives an account of existing policies and their shortcomings in the labor scenario in the context of the uncertainty of the upcoming codes.

### *How Inclusive is "Inclusive Development" in India? Challenges and Prospects of the Indian Youth Labour Market*

Nitin Bisht, Falguni Pattanaik

International Business Education Journal 1st ser., 14

<https://ojs.upsi.edu.my/index.php/IB EJ/article/view/4286>

The youth labor market is limited in India. This article provides a comprehensive statistical analysis of youth in the Indian job market and its role in economic development. The article highlights the risk factors of exclusion in the job market and advocates for necessary policy intervention.

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Dhruv Nilkanth

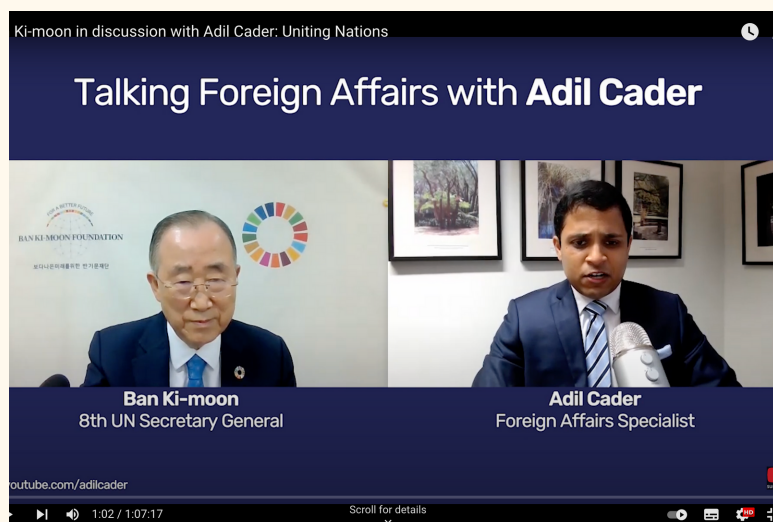


## VIDEO INTERVIEWS

### *Ban Ki-moon in discussion with Adil Cader: Uniting Nations*

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=3724&v=5tkRxeSChCA&feature=emb\\_logo](https://m.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=3724&v=5tkRxeSChCA&feature=emb_logo)

A candid talk with the former United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon. He discusses the current state of global affairs, provides insights on his experiences in the UN and talks about his autobiography titled 'Uniting Nations in a Divided World.' The hour-long in-depth interview is a must-watch for anyone associated with the UN, IR enthusiasts and youngsters aspiring to work with international organisations.



### *Former Unilever CEO Paul Polman Says Aiming for Sustainability Isn't Enough. The Goal Is Much Higher*

[https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=oJAc9-huRWs&feature=emb\\_logo](https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=oJAc9-huRWs&feature=emb_logo)



The interview with the former Unilever CEO proposed a change in the way companies treat sustainability. It is a must-watch for students and professionals of sustainability, management, CSR, entrepreneurship and includes a discussion on how leaders can drive ESG goals and why companies should look beyond these fixed targets and be proactive. He stresses the importance of corporate transparency and the role that employees can play in forcing change within companies.



## THE DUTCH ANGLE

Arjun Sujit Varma



### Euphoria: Conversations with the young, we never hear

Studios and platforms in the west have always shown a keen interest in creating teen dramas, as they have an inherent binge-worthy quality to them. However, this quality evolved over the years of experimenting with the sub-genre which had reached a point of saturation with every new season of an established teen drama just turning out to be a montage of clichés. Typical teen dramas are created around the students attending an American high school in a particular locality. The casting of 20+ aged actors to play characters who are between the ages of 16-18 already should alarm the audience of the unrealistic depiction. The story of the drama would evolve around locker room talks in the corridor of the school or the cliché issues that arise between the popular couples in the school capitalizing on the mellow dramatic quotient making the show binge-worthy and providing unjustified logic for additional seasons. Most of these shows are plot-driven and do not provide space for character development causing the shows to burn out of interesting plot points and it moves forward to be drama around who slept with who.

With the rise of OTT platforms and the necessity to be really accurate in their depictions, filmmakers and show creators attempt to tap into the most controversial issues and sensitive aspects that would otherwise not be touched upon by mainstream cinema or television. A show like Euphoria manages to cover themes such as sexuality, evolving use of social media, drug abuse, and mental health. Such aspects which have never been explored in mainstream shows are now being appreciated because the young audiences can relate to the depiction of these aspects that are existing in their contemporary surroundings.



## THE DUTCH ANGLE

Arjun Sujit Varma



Euphoria's Season one is a brilliantly made show, it ticks all the boxes that make it a visual and technical treat and a music album that I thoroughly enjoyed. However, what really stood out in the film was this particular sequence in the second season's second episode, which starts off with narrating the life of the character named Nate who is the typical high school hotshot sports kid. The scene of him being uncomfortable around other men in the locker room who are exposing their male genitalia, initially triggering to be uncomfortable, made me realize how the audiences are not used to being exposed to male nudity but often overlook the glorified usage of female nudity in mainstream media. This question that the series put forward was so chilling it increased my appreciation for the show.



Another aspect that euphoria brilliantly portrays is the vulnerability of teenagers and the impulsive attitude of certain characters that are fuelled by past experiences. In terms of the structure of the screenplay for each episode, it contributes the entire pre-title time to one character-specific which allows us to relate to and be empathetic about the characters in the show. Season one of Euphoria made me uncomfortable, disturbed, emotional and happy.

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Arjun S. Varma- Editorial Associate  
Ashish Bayya- Editorial Intern  
Dhruv Nilkanth- Editorial Intern  
Jaya Narayan- Editorial Intern  
Nupur Barman- Editorial Intern

**Design:**

Aditya Mantri- Design Intern

**GUEST PUBLISHERS OF THE MONTH**

- Umang Verma
- Shreeyam Kedia, Navneedhi Mena, Madhulika Prakash

**CALLS FOR PAPERS****1<sup>ST</sup>-15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

SUBMIT YOUR RESEARCH PAPERS AT  
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CHANCE TO BE FEATURED IN OUR NEWSLETTER



SWIPE&gt;

**WHY WRITE FOR PROJECT STATECRAFT?**

With an emphasis on producing quality output and research focused on issues pertinent to the youth, policy, governance, and society, ProjectStatecraft provides a platform for young researchers to become a strong voice in policymaking and development.  
**Publishing with us will enable you to reach out to like minded individuals and gain the benefits of enhancing the ties for progress.**

SWIPE&gt;

**THE EDITORIAL PROCESS**

Our double-blind peer review process ensures anonymity at both ends for the authors and reviewers, promoting an unbiased review of the research papers.

**The editorial process is a comprehensive two step process, with two reviewers providing their expertise to evaluate and enhance the research paper.**