RISS Delegation Visits NDU Islamabad
15-18 November 2015

A four member delegation of Russian Institute of Strategic Studies (RISS) led by Lieutenant General (R) Leonid Reshetnikov visited Islamabad (15-18 November 2015) on the invitation of President NDU. The visit formed part of intellectual engagement between the two institutions that has acquired a regularity in the preceding two years or so. This afforded an opportunity to the two sides to brainstorm on the evolving strategic environment and ways and means to untap the existing potential to energize bilateral relations.

To recall, the first visit from the RISS had taken place in April 2014. Subsequently, DG ISSRA, joined by Dir G/RS paid a return visit to Moscow in October 2014.

The RISS and NDU had in April 2014 signed a framework agreement for bilateral cooperation. This entailed a promise of scholastic collaboration in international relations and diplomacy, besides specialized research and study. The agreed actionable agenda keeps provision for joint research, exchange of individual researchers/embedding researchers, invitation to seminars/workshops and annual dialogue process.

In the visit, the RISS delegation called on the President NDU and participated in a roundtable titled: “Convergence for a Better Tomorrow”, both 16 Nov (forenoon). Besides, they visited policy-relevant institutions and two more universities on the 17thNov.

The roundtable was held in two thematic sessions: first, Evolving Strategic Environment: Political & Security Challenges in the Cross Mediterranean Setting (e.g. Europe & Middle East); and second, Pakistan at Crossroads: Potential for Greater Stabilization and Trans-regional Economic Growth.

The roundtable was co-chaired by Major General Noel I. Khokhar, DG ISSRA and Lieutenant General (R) Leonid Reshetnikov, Director RISS. It was serviced by a large number of experts, former diplomats, academia and representatives of policy relevant institutions.