Science & Technology Diplomacy

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International political relations among different countries can be influenced by the extent of scientific and technological collaborations that may prevail among scientists of these countries. History provides many evidences of how scientific cooperation could help and bolster diplomatic ties and cultural exchanges between different nations. Condition of living in twenty-first century with all its complexities and development of means of communication, requires that we build a greater person to person or people-to-people relationships and this interaction can be made possible through cooperation in science & technology and collaborative science diplomacy. Collaboration in Science and diplomacy of science is not new, it is however, now broader, wider and in depth, and more visible than ever before and where its importance continues to grow.

Science and Technology are driving motors of modern societies towards process of globalization. Through science & technology diplomacy, geographical borders can be set aside beyond those of public diplomacy and where no obstacles stands in the way of scientific relations or prevent from development of such relationship for a longer duration. This paper presents a comprehensive definition of science & technology diplomacy and its crucial role in developing relations between countries. It also depicts Iran approach to this important notion and draw attention of both policy makers in all scientific & technological institutions & political organizations to such diplomacy.

Keywords: Science & Technology Diplomacy, International Scientific Collaboration, Science Diplomacy Functions, Science as tool for Diplomacy, Technology Diplomacy Workshop, Tehran 2012 Manifesto

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