

ISLAMABAD SECURITY DIALOGUE 2022

EVENT REPORT





ISLAMABAD
SECURITY
DIALOGUE

COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY:
REIMAGINING INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

ISLAMABAD SECURITY DIALOGUE

The Islamabad Security Dialogue (ISD) is envisioned as Pakistan's annual flagship security forum that will position Pakistan as a leading voice in thought leadership on national security issues.

The dialogue intends to provide a platform for critical thinking and robust intellectual discourse on some of the most important and pressing challenges and opportunities facing Pakistan and the wider region.

The second iteration of the two-day hybrid event took place in Islamabad on 1st -2nd April 2022 at Pak-China Friendship Centre. The event was attended by international thinkers and scholars, renowned international media persons, practitioners of international law, members of the Federal Cabinet, diplomatic corps, former government officials, academia, think-tanks and civil society members. The event was inaugurated by His Excellency Imran Khan, the Prime Minister of Pakistan.

The theme of the second edition of the ISD was “Comprehensive Security: Reimagining International Cooperation”.

The main aims of the ISD were:

- i. Holding one of its kind national security advisers dialogue.
- ii. Discussing the citizen centric national security policy framework. Facilitate a constructive conversation and critique on Pakistan's first ever National Security Policy.
- iii. Providing a platform to diverse global voices with different views for productive discussions.

KEY THEMES

The two-day conference centered on six major themes:

- 1) Geo-economics – growth & connectivity
- 2) Asian security in fluid world order
- 3) Disinformation and discourse in the information age
- 4) International security - international order and great power competition
- 5) Challenges and opportunities in international law
- 6) Citizen centric national security policy

AUDIENCE

The two-day event, held in a hybrid format due to the COVID-19 pandemic, was attended by international thinkers, global and local policy experts, scholars, members of the Federal Cabinet, diplomatic corps, former government officials, academia, think-tanks and civil society members.

EVENT SNAPSHOT



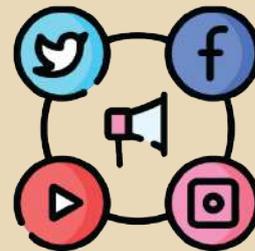
Speakers
46



Audience
15,000+



Media Spotlights
50+



Online Impressions
15+ Million

Twitter

Retweets: **14,889**

Views: **57 million+**

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE DIALOGUE

- The politics of Cold War and Blocs has exacerbated current political fault-lines and created further divisions.
- “Unilateralism and populism have severely undermined multilateralism, with states preferring individual over collective security.”
- Asian states are navigating myriad challenges in the form of great power contestation, political instability, disruption in supply chains, rising commodity prices, and threat of climate change, among others.
- Russian invasion of Ukraine has undermined the foundations of the post-World War II legal order based on the prohibition of use of force against territorial integrity and political independence of states.
- Ukraine is an example of geo-economics in action, i.e., geo-economic answer to geo-political actions, it’s a banks against tanks strategy.
- States are using geo-economics tools and policies to defend national interest and produce beneficial geo-political results
- Human rights advances made over the past several decades run the risk of being lost due to events like COVID-19, global financial crisis, and the rise of authoritarian regimes across the globe.
- Regional cooperation is essential to tackle climate change, as South Asia is warming up more rapidly than the rest of the world. 800 million people may be at risk by the years 2030-2040 due to climate change.
- The eroding distinction between information and disinformation necessitates a global consensus-based regulatory framework for media, along with mandatory state regulations and transparent self-regulation by the media itself.
- These challenges demand concerted efforts and cooperation among states as no state has the capability to overcome these hurdles unilaterally.
- Pakistan is trying to chart a new course focused on economic security, peaceful co-existence, shunning camp politics and most importantly leveraging Pakistan’s location to make it a melting pot of economic interests and become a gateway to Afghanistan, China and Central Asian Republics.
- Pakistan needs to devise policies to deal with uncontrolled population growth, investment in human resource development and creating equitable opportunities for women in all fields of life.
- For the last several decades, Pakistan has failed to tell its side of story and counter the narrative being shaped about Pakistan by external actors. To ensure effective national security, Pakistan needs a robust narrative, a Pakistani story.

DAY 1

INAUGURAL ADDRESS BY THE PRIME MINISTER

- Creating a strong welfare system, promoting inclusive growth and strengthening rule of law are essential factors for the security and development of a country.
- Pakistan envisions itself to be a welfare state equipped with the capacity and capability to look after its weakest citizens.
- Every citizen should be equal before the law. Pakistan requires strengthening the rule of law.
- Security is a multidimensional concept which encapsulates economic security. Economic disparity and non-inclusive growth are major sources of insecurity for any country.
- The public education system in Pakistan requires an overhaul because the Urdu medium public education system does not enable students to gain socio-economic mobility as compared to those educated in English medium schools.
- Elite capture of resources limits market competition which in turn stagnates economic growth and innovation.
- According to the United Nations (UN) Facti Panel report, 1.6 trillion goes into money laundering each year.
- Positive perception building and management is critical for encouraging economic investment into Pakistan.
- A country's foreign policy needs to be reflective of its national interests.
- Pakistan does not support camp politics and aspires for cordial relations with all countries keeping in view the interests of Pakistan's citizens.

DAY 1

SESSION I

Leveraging Geo-Economics Through Growth and Connectivity



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- Geo-Economics
- China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)
- Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)
- Economic Growth
- Economic Connectivity and Integration

SPEAKERS



Speaker

Ishrat Husain

Former Adviser to the Prime Minister of Pakistan



Speaker

Shamshad Akhtar

Chairperson of Pakistan Stock Exchange



Speaker

Peter Frankopan

University of Oxford



Speaker

Yvan De Mesmaeker

ATHENA



Speaker

Andrew Small

German Marshall Fund

Key Takeaways from the Session

- The Russian invasion of Ukraine has dramatically changed the world:
 - It has caused an increase in the cost of food, production, and energy.
 - It has also triggered an economic recession, affecting the poor sections of society globally.
 - The crisis might result in economic disintegration of societies and might even affect the social and political fabric of some countries.
- Sustainable development goals, climate agenda and trade digitalization have to be mainstreamed in regional cooperation and integration.
- Connectivity in South Asia is poor, as a result the cost of doing business between Pakistan and its neighbors is very high. Cooperation between South Asian countries is only around 5% of the gross domestic product.
- China has made great efforts to connect with South Asian countries based on four principles: inclusiveness and openness, hardware and software connectivity (infrastructure and people to people connectivity), mutual benefit and win-win cooperation based on common security.
- CPEC has become a flagship project of the BRI and China intends to build a railway project with Nepal to help realize its dream of transforming itself from landlocked to land-linked country.
- For landlocked South Asian countries, geo-political factors have delayed many connectivity projects, as India wants to keep its leverage on these landlocked countries by hindering connectivity.
- In the last couple of decades, after China's accession to World Trade Organization (WTO), globalization was heavily 'sinofied' due to cost advantages, clustering of supplies, quality of transportation and infrastructures, and a huge volume of outsourcing. However, experts believe that the period of speed and scale of BRI has come to an end, as a lot of rethinking is going on with regard to China related dependencies.
- China's BRI initiative was also a critique on the international infrastructure financing mechanism offered by multilateral financial institutions and global powers. Although initially there was more critique on BRI than alternative offers to mobilize development and infrastructure finance, in coming days better financing alternatives will be available to developing states on a larger scale through the European Union's (EU) global gateway initiative, Group of Seven (G7) build back better initiative, and US development financing.
- There are two aspects of geo-economics:
 - Use of economic instruments to promote and defend the national interest and to produce beneficial geo-political results.
 - Effects of other nations' economic actions on a country's geo-political aspirations.
- Ukraine is an example of geo-economics in action, i.e., a geo-economic answer to geo-political actions, it's a banks against tanks strategy.

SPEAKERS



Speaker

Lin Minwang
University of Fudan



Moderator

Vaqar Ahmad
SDPI

- States often face conflict between their geo-political objectives and economic interests. States can pursue their geo-political objectives, but it can harm their economic interests.
- Great power competition between the US, China, Russia, and the EU is forcing other states to choose sides, but states are reluctant to choose sides and want to keep their options open.
- Although interdependencies and strategic autonomy often oppose one another, after World War II, the EU was able to establish long lasting peace within 27 member countries through trade, interlinked economies, and people to people contact.

DAY 1

Feature Session

National Security Advisers Forum:
Asian Security in a Fluid World Order



DAY 1

Feature Session

A Conversation with Pakistan's NSAs



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- Asia in the New World Order
- Key Economic, Political and Technological Opportunities for Asia
- Shared Threats and Challenges
- Way Forward

SPEAKERS



Speaker

H.E. Ibrahim Kalin
Spokesperson and Chief
Advisor to the President of Turkey



Speaker

H.E. Mr. Zhao Kezhi
Minister for Public Security
People's Republic of China



Speaker

H.E. Lt. Gen. Victor Makhmudov
Secretary to the Security Council of
the Republic of Uzbekistan



Speaker

Mr. Asset Issekeshov
Secretary of the Security
Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan



Speaker

H.E. Lieutenant General
Marat Imankulov
Secretary of the Security Council
of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan



Speaker

H.E. Mohammed Bin
Ahmed Al Mesned
Advisor for National Security to
the Emir of the State of Qatar

Key Takeaways from the Sessions

- Given its economic, technological and demographic potential, Asia will play a pivotal role in shaping the global political and financial system.
- To realize its immense potential, Asia will have to navigate myriad challenges in the form of great power contestation, political instability, disruption in supply chains, rising commodity prices, and threat of climate change, among others.
- Asia is a continent of many conflicts and political disputes, hampering economic growth, rendering millions of people displaced and having spill-over effects for neighboring countries.
- These challenges demand concerted efforts and cooperation among states. No state has the capability to overcome these hurdles unilaterally. It is imperative that in this globalized and interconnected world, states pursue a policy of sustainable and cooperative security to deal with traditional and non-traditional security issues.
- The politics of Cold War and Blocs will exacerbate current political fault-lines and create further division.
- Terrorist groups and non-state militant actors continue to pose a threat to domestic peace and regional stability and are a real stumbling block to increased trade and connectivity. They thrive in ungoverned and lawless spaces.
- Wars in Afghanistan have had catastrophic spillover effects for neighboring states of Central Asia and South Asia. A politically destabilized and economically fragile Afghanistan should be of concern for regional states.
- Afghanistan faces a dire humanitarian crisis, exacerbated by global sanctions and restrictions on banking and economic sectors. Collective efforts and coordinated policies are required to not allow Afghanistan to descend into chaos again.
- The promises of a politically stable and economically prosperous world in a post-Cold War era never materialized; rather power disequilibrium, unequal distribution of resources and instability have created resentment among people.
- A new world order needs to be built, which is based on shared values and norms, sense of belongingness, and equality of opportunities.
- The resolution of the Palestine issue according to United Nations Security Council resolutions is indispensable for durable peace in the Middle East.
- Managing inter-state rivalry through dialogue and negotiations and dealing with the threat of violent terrorist organizations are some of the key issues facing the Middle East region.
- Ensuring adequate energy supplies for increased demand in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic recovery and wars affecting production to maintain economic growth and meet people's basic needs will continue to be an important challenge.

SPEAKERS



Speaker

H.E. Musaed al-Aiban
Minister of State and National
Security Adviser, Saudi Arabia
Represented by:
Ambassador Nawaf bin
Saeed Al-Maliki

- A country like Pakistan which does not subscribe to camp politics and is seeking economic security must look at economic diplomacy as the key to the future.
- The real challenge for Pakistan's foreign policy going forward is how it changes its direction from geopolitical diplomacy in the past to that based on geo-economics in future.
- Pakistan's comprehensive National Security Policy focuses on the welfare of its citizens. To ensure effective implementation, all state ministries and departments must follow the direction outlined in the newly launched security policy of Pakistan.

SPEAKERS



Speaker

Nasser Khan Janjua
Former National Security Adviser



Speaker

Naeem Khalid Lodhi
Former Federal Minister for
National Security



Speaker

Moeed W. Yusuf
National Security Adviser
of Pakistan



Moderator

Syed Ahmed Maroof
National Security Division

ISD

2022

COMPREHENSIVE SECURITY: REIMAGINING
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



ISLAMABAD SECURITY DIALOGUE

Leveraging
Geo-Economics
Through Growth
and Connectivity

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DAY 1

SESSION II

Navigating Disinformation & Discourse in the Information Age



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- The Information Revolution
- Information Tools
- Disinformation

SPEAKERS



Keynote

Javed Jabbar

Former Federal Minister For
Information



Speaker

Liu Xin

China Global Television
Network



Speaker

Karan Thapar

Infotainment Television



Speaker

Oksana Boyko

Russia Today



Speaker

Hussain Nadim

Islamabad Policy
Research Institute



Speaker

Shane Harris

Washington Post

Key Takeaways from the Session

- The current information revolution has united industry, information, technology, media and connectivity.
- Communication frontiers have superseded physical frontiers for those who control technology and the means of disseminating information in the virtual domain.
- Information is now produced and shared in large volumes, rendering inadequate the capacity to coherently manage all information.
- The distinction between information and disinformation is eroding. Disinformation can be disseminated through news, analysis, infotainment, cinema and drama.
- An authentic public broadcasting and media service is required. This body should be independent of state control and advertisement revenue. Rather, it should rely on corporate philanthropy, so that an independent appraisal of information is produced.
- There is a need for a four tier regulatory approach, which includes:
 - i. A global consensus-based regulatory framework for media transcending national frontiers.
 - ii. A mandatory state level regulation which should be progressive in nature and should be developed in consultation with all stakeholders, especially citizens.
 - iii. Transparent self-regulation by the media. State should define a framework for self-regulation.
 - iv. Regulation by civil society and citizens. There is a need to build capacity to verify authenticity of information.
- Inaccurate information is a three-tiered structure, which includes:
 - i. Disinformation: Information disseminated with an intention to harm.
 - ii. Misinformation: Inaccurate information with no intention to cause socio-political harm.
 - iii. Mal-information: This information contains elements of truth but it is presented in an exaggerated manner.
- Monopoly of narrative has shifted away from the state towards non-state actors, this has led to a democratization of information.
- Countries suffering from lower levels of economic development are generally more prone to accepting religious disinformation which is often employed as a political strategy. The case of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in India is an example of this phenomenon.
- In order to deal with the disruptive capacity of disinformation, journalists should abide by rigorous journalistic standards of verification and authenticity of news.
- Objective reporting and analysis of current affairs requires keeping in view the strategic context, keeping emotions at bay and upholding intellectual honesty. Objectivity in reporting is compromised if rationales of all contending parties are not discussed.

SPEAKERS



Moderator

Mosharraf Zaidi

Tabadlab

- Television channels and giant social media platforms should avoid censorship of dissenting voices.
- A global framework for media regulation may help curb disinformation shared through big media companies.
- Countries should have ambassadors designated to giant social media corporations as means to voice their state interests.
- Disinformation is at times deployed by global powers to target independent cultures.
- Our worldview impacts our cognitive ability to pick up one set of facts over others. An individual can be shaped by different sets of facts, so it is essential to find common grounds so that use of disinformation becomes less effective.
- Pakistan is at the intersection of multiple geopolitical interests, which grants the country a unique position to bring together voices with different views for productive discussions.



**ISLAMABAD
SECURITY
DIALOGUE**

DAY 2

OPENING SESSION WITH CHIEF OF THE ARMY STAFF

- There is a need to inculcate and promote spaces for debate and discourse where people from all over the world come together to share ideas for global cooperation and averting confrontations.
- The resurgence of interstate competition amidst shared global challenges of poverty, climate change, terrorism, cyber intrusion, and scarcity of resources poses profound questions for the international system.
- The international community's collective security rests in its ability to integrate the shared goals of global prosperity through an equitable international system, resisting the pressure of great power contestation.
- Pakistan's first-ever national security policy places its citizens' safety, security, dignity, and prosperity at the heart of its security policy. Pakistan aims to achieve prosperity for its citizens with a focus on ensuring investment, economic growth, and stability, augmented through development partnerships with the international community under our geo-economics vision.
- Peace and stability in the wider region are prerequisites for achieving shared regional prosperity and development. In this regard, Pakistan's doors are open for all our neighbors.
- Pakistan's law enforcement agencies and the military have given innumerable sacrifices to fight the menace of terrorism since 2001. Pakistan has suffered over 90,000 casualties and more than US \$150 billion in economic losses in its efforts to defeat terrorism.
- Instability in Afghanistan has created negative externalities and spillover effects for Pakistan. Hence, Pakistan continues to work closely with the international community to pursue peace and provide humanitarian aid to the people of Afghanistan; but much more is needed.
- The situation along the line of control is satisfactory and fairly peaceful. However, India's recent launch of a supersonic cruise missile into Pakistan on 9th March 2022 is a serious concern. This incident could have resulted in the loss of lives in Pakistan.
- Pakistan continues to believe in using dialogue and diplomacy to resolve all outstanding issues including the Kashmir dispute.
- Pakistan is deeply concerned about the Indo-China border dispute and supports a peaceful resolution. The political leadership of the region should rise above their emotional and perceptual biases to bring peace and prosperity to almost 3 billion people of the region.
- Pakistan is deeply concerned about the conflict in Ukraine since Pakistan enjoys good relations with both countries. The continuation or expansion of the conflict in Ukraine will not serve the interest of either side.

- Pakistan positions itself as a melting pot for positive global economic interests through a focus on connectivity and developing partnerships. Pakistan's bilateral relationships with its partners are not at the expense of its ties with other countries.
- Pakistan enjoys a close partnership with China demonstrated by our commitment to CPEC. Similarly, the EU, the United Kingdom, the Gulf region, Southeast Asia, and Japan are vital for Pakistan's national development and progress.
- Pakistan does not believe in camp politics and its interests are best served if cooperation is promoted instead of contestation.

SPEECH ON BEHALF OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL

By Julien Harnies, Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator
United Nations, Pakistan

- Pakistan serves as a top contributor to UN peacekeeping missions, thereby carrying an important role in the maintenance of global peace and security.
- Eight UN peacekeepers, most of whom were from Pakistan, lost their lives in a helicopter crash in North Kivu, Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Pakistan's National Security Policy's emphasis on economic and human security is a welcome approach.
- Pakistan has provided humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and shelter to refugees.
- The situation in Afghanistan poses major risks to Pakistan including spillover effects of terrorism.
- The situation in Ukraine is of great concern, there is a need for an immediate ceasefire so that serious political negotiations may ensue.
- The world today faces a series of non-traditional security threats including- inequality, discrimination, hate speech, the climate crisis, and the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The report titled "Our Common Agenda" proposes a new agenda for peace, with an aim to find solutions to the world's security and development needs. This entails measures such as: implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change, supporting the World Health Organization's global vaccination strategy to end the pandemic, and urgent reforms to the global financial system to help developing countries support their people and build sustainable recovery.

DAY 2

SESSION III

Challenges to International Security



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- International Order and Great Power Competition
- Strategic Stability in South Asia
- Peace in Afghanistan
- Rules-Based International Order

SPEAKERS



Keynote

Shah Mahmood Qureshi
Foreign Minister of Pakistan



Speaker

Tehmina Janjua
Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan



Speaker

Zalmay Khalilzad
Former United States Ambassador
to the United Nations



Speaker

FU Xiaoqiang
Vice President China Institutes of
Contemporary International
Relations



Speaker

Pravin Sawhney
FORCE Magazine



Speaker

Wakana Mukai
Asia University Japan

Key Takeaways from the Session

- The seeds of a new Cold War are being sowed.
- Unilateralism and populism have severely undermined multilateralism, with states preferring individual security over collective security.
- East-West tensions and new emerging technologies will only exacerbate these trends, with the potential to lead to a conflictual situation.
- Besides the global power competition, the international system is also threatened by regional challenges linked to international power rivalry, as demonstrated by the Ukrainian war and India's politics of hegemony and military aggression in South Asia.
- The Ukraine war was both a failure of diplomacy as well as the European security architecture.
- Introduction of new weapons systems by India, a growing propensity for military misadventures and increasing political latitude due to its alignment of interest with the US as 'the net security provider' in the Indo-Pacific region, has destabilized South Asia and undermined regional peace.
- Amid these challenges, Pakistan is trying to chart a new course focused on economic security, peaceful co-existence, shunning camp politics and most importantly leveraging Pakistan to become a melting pot of economic interests and become a gateway to Afghanistan, China and Central Asian Republics.
- Pakistan also made peace overtures to India, which were reciprocated with greater military adventurism and unilateralism in the Indian Illegally Occupied Jammu and Kashmir by abrogating its special constitutional status.
- Pakistan should learn from its geo-strategic partner China: show strategic patience and focus on development.

SPEAKERS



Moderator

Syed Hassan Akbar
National Security Division

- The world order has become multi-polar. A new phase is being witnessed now where status-quo power is being challenged by an emerging political and economic power and how it pans out will determine the future of the world.
- Sino-US competition is going to increase. Unlike Russia, China is a multi-dimensional power and its competition with the US will be multi-faceted and fought on multiple fronts.



DAY 2

SESSION IV

Evolving Challenges & Opportunities in International Law



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- **Cyber Operations**
- **Maritime Security**
- **State Silence**
- **Right of Self-Determination**
- **International Investment Arbitration**

SPEAKERS



Keynote

H.E. Judge Raul Pangalangan
Former ICC Judge



Speaker

Hurst Hannum
TUFTS University



Speaker

Kubo Macak
International Committee of
the Red Cross



Speaker

Ahmed Irfan Aslam
Office of Attorney-General
of Pakistan



Speaker

Toby Landau
DUXTON HILL



Speaker

James Kraska
Harvard & US Naval
War College

Key Takeaways from the Session

- Russian invasion of Ukraine has undermined the foundations of the post-World War II legal order based on the prohibition of use of force against territory integrity and political independence of states. The Russian invasion also violated the Ukrainian right of self-determination, i.e., to act independently.
- Although the International court of Justice (ICJ) and International Criminal Court (ICC) reacted promptly, responding within days of the Russian attack on Ukraine, there are limits to international law responses to the crisis, e.g., the limits on the ICJ to exercise its jurisdiction over state parties.
- The right of self-determination is one of the most widely accepted principles of international law, but it has a very narrow scope, i.e., the European colonies had the right to become independent from their colonizers and has never included the right of groups within states to become independent.
- The human rights advances made over the past several decades run the risk of being lost due to events like COVID-19, financial crisis of 2008, and the rise of authoritarian regimes across the globe. Although human rights help in making societies more equal, fair and more participatory, they do not automatically translate into mechanisms to avert wars.
- There are three important aspects of cyber operations: potential human cost of cyber operations (i.e., consequences of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure), military aspect (i.e., increasing state capabilities to conduct cyber operations), and legal aspect (i.e., acknowledgement that international humanitarian law is applicable to cyber operations).
- State silence or acquiescence is relevant for determining opinio juris in relation to identification of customary international law, as the failure to react over time to a practice may serve as acceptance of practice as a law.
- Very high threshold for state silence to construe a custom; behavioral norm (i.e., circumstances called for states' reaction as its interests were under threat), knowledge (includes both actual and constructive knowledge), state's capacity to react (not all states have equal resources and capacity to react).
- The UN Convention on the Law of Sea empowers coastal states to ask warships such as a submarine, which violates the right of innocent passage to leave its territorial waters, mostly done through depth charges (not through use of force but through a signal).
- There is a gulf between the standards agreed in the investment treaties and the governance abilities of most countries to meet those standards. States are adopting proactive policies by seeking input from international law scholars at the time of formulating policies. Hence, building local international law capacity is critical to ensure the security of Pakistan.

SPEAKERS



Speaker

Danae Azaria

University College of London



Moderator

Oves Anwar

Research Society of
International Law

- Pakistan lacks international law capacity and the overall threshold of capacity has lowered over the last three decades due to lack of investment in legal education, failure to build an international law related institution, and increasing complexity of the subject matter, which requires more technical and specialized expertise.
- The international legal system developed over the last seven decades has served as impetus for domestic legal reforms. However, countries that were able to wed their domestic consideration with international obligations have fared better in reforming their legal systems.



ISLAMABAD
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DAY 2

SESSION V

Towards Citizen Centric National Security



THEMES OF THE SESSION

- National Security Policy (NSP)
- Traditional and Nontraditional Security Challenges
- Comprehensive Human Security
- Advisory Board & Think Tanks



Speaker

Adil Najam

Boston University



Speaker

Zeba Sathar

Population Council



Speaker

Aisha Khan

Mountain and Glacier
Protection Organization



Speaker

Tahir Ashrafi

Special Assistant to the Prime
Minister on Religious Harmony



Moderator

Huma Baqai

Institute of Business
Administration

Key Takeaways from the Session

- The National Security Policy is a living document; it has to be contextualized as per need of hour.
- An issue becomes a security issue when it poses an existential threat. The NSP highlights existential challenges to Pakistan which may be viewed through the lens of security.
- Security can be predicated by a nation's ability to absorb shocks and respond to fragility and crisis. Economic resilience and human security is at the heart of comprehensive security.
- The paradigm of human security-developed by Dr. Mehmood ul Haq- has seven sub sections, which include: political security, economic security, food security, health security, personal security, community security and environmental security.
- The human security paradigm is reflected in Chapter One of the Constitution of Pakistan. The NSP also expands the scope of security to encapsulate key determinants of human security.
- The federal government may engage provincial governments, local governments and experts for improving human security as envisioned in the NSP. A comprehensive human development strategy may be created after mapping grievances through use of an amelioration detection index.
- To attain food security, there is a need to ensure availability, accessibility and affordability of food supplies.
- Regional cooperation is essential to tackle climate change, as South Asia is warming up more rapidly than the rest of the world. 800 million people may be at risk by the years 2030-2040 due to climate change.
- For an effective implementation of geo-economics, Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) should be encouraged so that local jobs may be created. Alongside, regional trade and mobility is essential for geo-economics.
- A higher share of knowledge intensive goods in the export profile of a country tends to yield higher per capita income growth. Creation of a knowledge based economy relies on research, innovation and creativity. Pakistan may consider linking institutions and universities with industries.
- Uncontrolled population growth is a security risk as it strains the economy, food and water resources.
- There is a need to devise women centric population policies which take in account employment and education opportunities for women. At the same time, family planning centers should be incorporated into public hospitals.
- National Cohesion is a determining factor in achieving national security. Diversity should be celebrated but at the same time, symbols of unity such as the national flag, common religion and language should also be valued.

PRESENTERS

IRS

- Discriminatory national laws on the basis of religion require re-evaluation and review mechanism of blasphemy cases should be improved.

ISSRA

- An effective feedback mechanism loop needs to be created at the federal level so that socio-economic and political grievances of people are assuaged.

CASS

- Proposition to establish aman committees to enhance inter religious interaction at local government levels.

ISSI

- People need to be cognizant of any hateful content shared during religious sermons.

IPRI



CLOSING ADDRESS BY MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING

- For the last several decades, Pakistan has failed to tell its side of story and counter the narrative being shaped about Pakistan by external actors.
- The mediums through which Pakistan used to effectively tell its story have declined over the decades, rendering its story unheard and unseen.
- In the past, Pakistan had a thriving film industry. During the 1970s, Pakistan was the 3rd largest producer of movies and films in the world, which has reduced to a trickle now.
- Pakistan had some of the world's most cinematic screens, even in rural and remote parts of the country. Now, there are hardly 400-500 cinematic screens.
- In the last two decades, Pakistan has faced a concerted disinformation campaign both against the state and the people, trivializing people's sufferings and grief, unrecognizing Pakistan's sacrifices and loss in the fight against war on terror, etc.
- Some initiatives have been taken to create conditions and develop mechanisms to enable Pakistan to tell its story.
- Pakistan has established a Digital Media Wing and the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP) is already working as a Digital News Agency, like AFP and Reuter.
- Pakistan Television Corporation (PTV) was in a deep economic crisis and did not generate its own revenue, but it is currently recording historic revenue collections.
- To ensure effective national security, Pakistan needs a robust narrative, a Pakistani story.
- As long as Pakistan does not tell its own story, others will project Pakistan as their political biases and vested interests determine.



ISLAMABAD

SECURITY

DIALOGUE

Prime Minister - Imran Khan

“Creating a strong welfare system, promoting inclusive growth and strengthening rule of law are essential factors for the security and development of a country.”

Chief of Army Staff - General Qamar Javed Bajwa

“National Security Policy recognizes the symbiotic relationship between economic, human & traditional security, placing economic security at the core.”

Former United States Ambassador - Zalmay Khalizad

“Decentralisation and political and economic participation and inclusivity are important for the future of Afghanistan.”

Former Minister for Information and Broadcasting - Javed Jabbar

“A comprehensive 4 tier approach is needed to tackle disinformation. Global consensus on regulation of conventional and social media, national state regulation, which is progressive & not regressive, self-regulation by media, and individual/social regulation.”

Foreign Minister - Shah Mahmood Qureshi

“Globalisation has tied the economies of the world. It has also connected the societies and peoples more directly. The challenges and security dilemmas faced by Pakistan today are concomitant to global and regional undercurrents.”

National Security Adviser of Pakistan - Moed Yusuf

“We have to be proactive, unapologetic, pragmatic, and introspective about the narrative building in Pakistan.”

Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator United Nations, Pakistan (Speech on behalf of United Nations Secretary General) - Julien Harnies

“Pakistan continues to play an important role in the maintenance of global peace and security, including as one of the top contributors to UN peacekeeping operations, and as a hub between South, Central and West Asia.”

Minister for Public Security, People’s Republic of China - H.E. Mr. Zhao Kezhi

“Different countries have different interests. Therefore, conflict is natural, however, the key is dialogue and cooperation”. “Asian affairs should be run by Asians. External influence and interference is unacceptable.”



ISLAMABAD

SECURITY

DIALOGUE

SPEAKERS

Ishrat Husain, *Former Adviser to the Prime Minister of Pakistan*
Shamshad Akhtar, *Chairperson of Pakistan Stock Exchange*
Peter Frankopan, *University of Oxford*
Andrew Small, *German Marshall Fund*
Lin Minwang, *University of Fudan*
Yvan De Mesmaeker, *ATHENA*
Vaqar Ahmed, *Sustainable Development Policy Institute (Moderator)*
H.E. Zhao Kezhi, *Minister for Public Security, People's Republic of China*
H.E. Gizat Nurdauletov, *Secretary of the Security Council of the Republic of Kazakhstan*
H.E. Lieutenant General Marat Imankulov, *Secretary of the Security Council of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan*
H.E. Mohammed Bin Ahmed Al Mesned, *Advisor for National Security to the Emir of the State of Qatar*
H.E. Ibrahim Kalin, *Spokeperson and Chief Adviser to the President of Turkey*
H.E. Musaed al-Aiban, *Minister of State and National Security Adviser, Saudi Arabia*
(Represented by Ambassador Nawaf Bin Saeed Al- Maliki)
H.E. Lt. Gen. Victor Makhmudov, *Secretary to the Security Council of the Republic of Uzbekistan*
Nasser Khan Janjua, *Former National Security Adviser*
Naeem Khalid Lodhi, *Former Federal Minister for National Security*
Moeed W. Yusuf, *National Security Adviser of Pakistan*
Syed Ahmed Maroof, *National Security Division (Moderator)*
Javed Jabbar, *Former Federal Minister for Information (Keynote)*
Shane Harris, *Washington Post*
Liu Xin, *China Global Television Network*
Karan Thapar, *Infotainment Television*
Oksana Boyko, *Russia Today*
Hussain Nadim, *Islamabad Policy Research Institute*
Mosharraf Zaidi, *Tabadlab (Moderator)*
Shah Mehmood Qureshi, *Foreign Minister of Pakistan (Keynote)*
Tehmina Janjua, *Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan*
Zalmay Khalilzad, *Former United States Ambassador to the United Nations*
FU Xiaoqiang, *Vice President China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations*
Pravin Sawhney, *FORCE Magazine*
Wakana Mukai, *Asia University Japan*
Syed Hassan Akbar, *National Security Division (Moderator)*
H.E. Judge Raul Pangalangan, *Former ICC Judge (Keynote)*
Hurst Hannum, *TUFTS University*
Kubo Macak, *International Committee of the Red Cross*
Ahmed Irfan Aslam, *Office of Attorney-General of Pakistan*
Toby Landau, *DUXTON HILL*
James Kraska, *Harvard & US Naval War College*
Danae Azaria, *University College of London*
Oves Anwar, *Research Society of International Law (Moderator)*
Adil Najam, *Boston University*
Zeba Sathar, *Population Council*
Aisha Khan, *Mountain and Glacier Protection Organization*
Tahir Ashrafi, *Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Religious Harmony*
Chaudhry Fawad Hussain, *Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting (Keynote)*



The National Security Division

Pakistan's approach to national security is broad, proactive and resolute. Rather than being set in an archaic guns vs. butter debate, the goal of national security thinking must be to identify means of expanding the national resource pie such that Pakistan can simultaneously strengthen its traditional and non-traditional security. The most prudent approach is to keep economic security at the core, and transfer the dividends of a strong economy to further strengthen our military and diplomacy, as well as human security. This is the Prime Minister's vision that National Security Division (NSD) strives to pursue.

The NSD is the secretariat of Pakistan's National Security Committee (NSC), the country's premium forum on national security. NSD remains committed to providing intellectual and administrative support to the NSC. Cognizant of Pakistan's complex security requirements, the Division responds to the Prime Minister's demand for policy input on any relevant national security issue, and partakes in relevant policy meetings at working and Principal levels to provide policy advice and affect positive policy change. In addition, the Division is geared to build international synergies by engaging in security dialogues with partner countries to strengthen Pakistan's global cooperation on matters of security.

Strategic Policy Planning Cell

Housed within the NSD, the Strategic Policy Planning Cell (SPPC) acts as a conduit for providing evidence-based policy input on various issues that fall under the ambit of the National Security Committee (NSC). To fully empower decision makers with the most rigorous and relevant analysis, the SPPC absorbs scholarship for each of the thematic areas it is tasked to work on by partnering with independent experts, think-tanks/research centers, and universities through its Council of Experts – bridging the gap between the Government and Pakistan's public intellectuals and policy institutes.

Together, the NSD and the SPPC strive to offer strategic responses to Pakistan's internal and external security challenges in coordination with state institutions. The SPPC continues to work on identifying and advising on long-term policy issues through a far-sighted approach, enabling the system to be more proactive in its strategies, and capitalize on potential opportunities.

