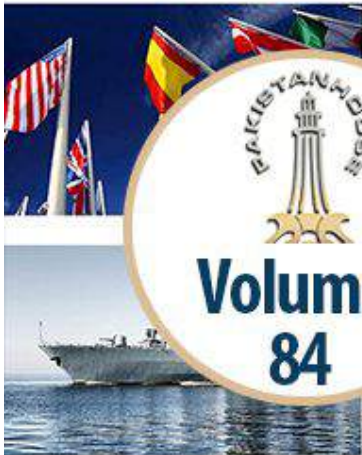


EDITION  
2022

 **PAKISTAN HOUSE**  
A THINK TANK OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

# MONOGRAPH SERIES



 PakistanHouseOfficial  
 @PakistanHouse11

**Pakistan House**

[www.pakistanhouse.net](http://www.pakistanhouse.net)



## Table of Contents

S#	Title	Page #
1-	Content .....	i
2-	Advisory Board .....	ii
3-	Pakistan House Team .....	v
	Security Briefs.....	
4-	New Zealand's Effort for Environmental Security.....	01
5-	Biden Administration Approved \$5.3 Billion Arms Sale to UAE and Saudi Arabia.....	02
6-	North Korea's Nuclear Threat to US and South Korea.....	03
7-	Central Asia: A Zone of Peace .....	04
8-	Pakistan, China Seeking For Stability In Afghanistan .....	06
9-	Global Recession And Sustainable Development.....	07
10-	US-Japan Economic Security Dialogue .....	08
11-	Tehran Summit: Turkey's New Operation in Syria .....	10
12-	Rise In Fuel Prices And Food Security .....	11
13-	How To Tackle Climate Crisis In Pakistan? .....	12
14-	President Joe Biden's Security Commitment to Israel .....	13
15-	Sri Lanka: The Island Nation In Turmoil .....	14
16-	Karachi: The City Being Affected By Floods Once Again .....	15
17-	The Troubled Relations between Pakistan and India .....	16
18-	Importance of Cyber Security .....	17
19-	Saudi Arab, Iraq And Iran: A Growing Relationship .....	18
20-	Role Of Media In Israel-Palestine Conflict .....	19
21-	Afghanistan Back To The Gloomy Days .....	20
22-	Ukraine War: The Blame Game Continues .....	21



## Table of Contents

S#	Title	Page #
	Articles .....	
1-	How To Strengthen Food Security In Rural Areas Of Pakistan?.....	23
2-	Our Common Agenda: The Path for Sustainable Development .....	24
3-	India-Maldives Relations: Security and Strategic Partnership .....	26
4-	The Unexplored Blue Economy of Pakistan .....	28
5-	Europe Energy Crisis: Ties with GCC and Saudi Arabia .....	31
6-	Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Economic Effects of Isolating Russia .....	33
7-	NATO Membership of Sweden and Finland is in Limbo .....	34
8-	The Scorching Europe! .....	36
9-	Asian Cauldron Playing its Role in Global Economy .....	38
10-	Climate Change: A Non-Traditional Security Threat .....	40
11-	The Quad Lateral Ties Between India, Israel, US and UAE: "i2u2" .....	42
12-	China's Strengthening Ties with Afghanistan .....	43
13-	Pak-Iran Trade Ties .....	46
14-	Importance of Intelligence for a State .....	48
15-	CPEC and Pak-China "Strategic Partnership" Despite Challenges. ....	50



*The copyright of this monograph belongs to the Pakistan House under the terms of the Pakistan Copyrights act. Due acknowledgement must always be made of the use of any material contained in, or derived from, this monograph.*





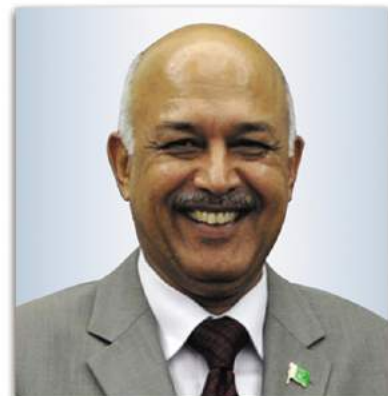
## Advisory Board



**Chairman**  
**General Ehsan Ul Haq,**  
*HI (M) NI (M) (Retd)*



**Director General & Founder**  
**Mr Muhammad Athar Javed**



**Board Member**  
**Lt General Asif Yasin Malik,**  
*HI (M) (Retd)*



**Board Member**  
**Lt General Khalid Rabbani,**  
*HI (M) (Retd)*



**Board Member**  
**Brig Riaz Chib,**  
*SI (M) (Retd)*



**Board Member**  
**Ambassador Zamir Akram**  
(Retd)



**Board Member**  
**Vice Admiral Rao Iftikhar Ahmed**  
HI (M), (Retd)



**Board Member**  
**Ambassador Salman Bashir**  
(Retd)



**Board Member**  
**Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad**



**Board Member**  
**Ms Iram Allaudin**



**Board Member**  
**Dr Shabana Fayyaz**





**Head of Legal Affairs**  
**Mr. Shah Khawar**  
*ADVOCATE SUPREME COURT OF PAKISTAN*



**Board Member**  
**Mr. Habib Paracha**  
*ENTREPRENEUR, FILM MAKER*

## Pakistan House Team



**SADDAM TAHIR**  
Senior Research Associate, Team Leader



**AZHAR IQBAL**  
OFFICE MANAGER



**SOHAIL IQBAL**  
IT ADMINISTRATOR



**HAMNA SEYYED**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



**EZBA WALAYAT**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



**MS SHAISTA RIAZ**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



**ZESHAN BAJWA**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



**SYED TAYYAB HUSSAIN**  
RESEARCH ASSOCIATE



**KASHIF AHMAD MOHAAR**  
VISITING RESEARCH FELLOW



**SANIA KHAN**  
JUNIOR VISITING RESEARCH  
FELLOW



**KHANSA ISHAQUE QURESHI**  
JUNIOR VISITING RESEARCH  
FELLOW



**TAHAMA ASAD**  
JUNIOR VISITING RESEARCH  
FELLOW

**HARIS ALI KHAN**  
Research Associate, Afghan Expert





## 1- New Zealand's Effort for Environmental Security

Massive harm as a result of climate change problems associated with global warming is being experienced by New Zealand. In order to address these issues, New Zealand has formulated its first six-year national action plan, as more extreme storms, flooding and wild fires are brought on by climate change. James Shaw, New Zealand's minister for climate change, stated that extreme weather events that had previously thought unimaginable are today happening at a rate and an intensity that we have never witnessed before. It is also the first long-term plan to assist New Zealand in strengthening its resilience and adaptability to a fast changing environment. The evacuation of 70,000 homes near coastal areas will be contemplated as a possible solution to the increasing sea levels.

The key idea behind the action plan is to make country ready for negative outcomes in advance rather than after they happen. The plan can be considered as a great effort by New Zealand to ensure environmental security. Before moving forward, it is important to understand the importance of environmental security, as the current discourse on security has been



shifted from traditional security to non-traditional security threats such as climate change, human security, food security, environmental security etc. but unfortunately it is not getting enough attention. Environmental security is the condition of safeguarding the important interests of the individuals, society, and natural environment against risks brought on by anthropogenic and natural events. The dynamics and connections between people and natural resources make environmental security essential to national security paradigm. Thus, environment is the subject matter and maintaining its protection is crucial for maintaining peace, national security, and human rights. The natural environment of New Zealand is an important component of its culture and a driving force behind the country's tourism industry that help economy. The natural resources of New Zealand, which make up a sizable portion of its exports, are very important to the country's economy. These natural resources must be thoughtfully managed for the benefit of current and future generations in order to achieve sustainable economic growth. The items like dairy, beef, timber, fruit, vegetables, and fish assist the food security of countries like China, Australia and the United States that receive these products, are maintained by the natural environment.



Therefore, it is crucial for New Zealand to implement the National Adaptation Plan on urgent basis in order to preserve its environmental sustainability and economic growth. It can be done enhancing environmental governance and management, also by strengthening collaboration among all the stakeholders in order to make sure significant engagement with communities at local level to adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change in the country.

## 2- Biden Administration Approved \$5.3 Billion Arms Sale to UAE and Saudi Arabia

On 2nd August, 2022, the US State Department approved \$5 Billion arms deal with Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates (UAE). The deal includes the sale of Patriot missile to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia of worth \$3.05 billion and the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense (THAAD) systems to UAE having worth of \$2.25 billion.

The Pentagon said that the sale of 300 MIM-104E Guidance Enhanced Missile-Tactical Ballistic Missiles (GEM-T) for the Patriot missile defense system, as well as supporting equipment, replacement parts, and technical support to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, has been approved by the U.S. State Department. Furthermore, it has been authorized to sell 96 THAAD missile defense system



interceptors to the United Arab Emirates, along with spare parts and technical support. The State Department in a statement has said "These missiles are used to defend Saudi Arabia's borders from recurrent cross-border attacks by the Houthis on civilian and critical infrastructure using unmanned aerial systems and ballistic missiles".

The deal came after Biden administration suspended arms sale to Saudi Arabia and UAE in February 2021 because of the two country's involvement in Yemen war. Earlier, Donald Trump agreed upon the arms sales, defense equipment and transfers as a



step to normalize relations with key Middle-East partners as part of "Abraham Accords". Recently, it was in news that US is considering policy change towards Riyadh regarding weapons sale. Biden's trip to Middle-East and Saudi Arabia in July has made it clear in the form of current announcement for massive arms sale. The aim of the US is to promote relations with Gulf States amid of Ukraine



war for the sake of reducing dependency on Russian oil and gas, because these states can be proved a potential alternative to Russia. On the other hand, the latest development between the three countries is being seen as a measure to counter and defend against Iran. Few months back, US-led missile defense pact between Israel and several Arab countries known as Middle-East Air Defense Alliance (MEAD) has also been established. Under this arrangement, sensors and shooters from several countries will be connected together to counter threat from Iran. Considering the whole scenario, any defense deals such as US to resupply Saudi and UAE missile defense systems that are moving into the region are important to note. It is because Middle East has multiple existing challenges such as conflict within governments, civil wars, and serious humanitarian crises, undermining the regional order. Iran has remained a prominent actor in shaping up the region's politics that is why Israel and the Arab nations pushed closer together more quickly considering Iran's nuclear expansion as a common threat. The United States is also actively playing its role in Middle-East that is changing the dynamics of strategic and political landscape as well as threatening the already sensitive situation of security in the region.

### 3- North Korea's Nuclear Threat to US and South Korea

#### *Background*

The Korean War of the early 1950s took place in the early stages of the Cold War. The United States' support forces in the southern part of the peninsula against communist forces in the north that received military assistance from China and the Soviet Union is the origin of American military involvement in the Korean peninsula. According to the terms of the Mutual Defense Treaty between the United States and the Republic of Korea, the United States is now committed to defend South Korea, for that the US has about 29,000 troops deployed on the Korean peninsula.



Along with U.S. personnel, the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) is one of the most heavily armed borders in the world, it has a large number troops including of South Korean 630,000 soldiers and North Korea's 1.2 million military personnel. Every other day, one country threatens the other with nuclear deterrence while neglecting the consequences and its implications for the world's peace, security and stability.

#### *Kim Jong-un Statement*

At the Korean War anniversary, Kim Jong-un in a statement has said that North Korea is ready to mobilize nuclear forces and also ready for a nuclear deterrent and military confrontation with the United States.



The statement came when US has warned of a seventh nuclear test that Pyongyang could conduct at any time. Earlier, South Korean President Yoon has outlined a new more robust defense policy since taking office. Yoon has said, if it is felt that Pyongyang is about to launch a nuclear attack on it, it would allow South Korean forces to strike the North before Pyongyang could. In response to this, Mr. Kim also responded that South Korean President Yoon Suk-yeol's Government and military would be devastated into pieces if he launched any strike before North Korea. It is really unsettling to hear warnings from both the sides of the Korean peninsula and it seems like Korea is on the verge of war.

However, North Korean rhetoric has remained quite aggressive especially around the important anniversaries and even in normal days. There is the responsibility of the heads of each side to consider the issue seriously as it is not going to be a regular conflict between the states. It will be a nuclear war fought with nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction which will affect the whole



world. To achieve a diplomatic reconciliation, North and South Korea should cooperate with each other. Otherwise, threats of full-scale military deployment and cyber provocations pose serious concerns because occurrence of each of these events has the potential to escalate further and resulting into uncontrollable circumstances.

#### 4- Central Asia: A Zone of Peace

##### *Introduction*

On 28th July 2022, a resolution was introduced by the ambassador of Turkmenistan on behalf of other central Asian countries. The United Nations General Assembly has adopted the resolution and declared Central Asia as a zone of peace, trust and cooperation. It is said that the all the five countries of the region including Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have a great potential for development. Pakistan's UN ambassador also supported the resolution and its objectives while considering it a timely step. He said that Pakistan is dedicated to increase connectivity and collaboration with its Central Asian neighbors in trade, business, transport, energy and other sectors. The region is of utmost importance geographically and in terms of transnational cooperation as it is rich in natural resources as well as gas and oil resources making it as a prominent player in the regional and global markets. As the world is going through Russia-Ukraine crisis, the United States and European countries are the one which are most impacted due to the existing war.



United States has welcomed the resolution and expanded warm wishes to the five Central Asian countries on the adoption of resolution. Central Asia is a region which could help the US and EU in terms of energy supplies and can work as an alternative to Russia's dependency for oil and gas. This will also benefit the region while bringing investments, infrastructure development and growth opportunities in Central Asia.

The resolution has also emphasized on the greater cooperation among the Governments for a peaceful and prosperous society, sustainable development, peace, security, human rights and the rule of law. United States consider this resolution to maintain security within the region and promote international peace and security.



### **CARs Summit**

Recently, the heads of Central Asian countries attended the CARs (Central Asian Republics') Summit in Kyrgyzstan in order to explore the opportunities and potential prospects of the cooperation among the Republics. The leaders seek to make independent foreign policy choices and to take governance measures without any involvement of external powers which is a positive step towards to deal with the political and economic risks. The summit was exclusively held for regional discussions, regional problems and their solutions. This shows the commitment of all five countries for strengthening peace and security as well as to promote socio-economic development in the region.



The fourth Consultative meeting of CARs summit is a depiction of a collective regional approach toward multilateral cooperation. The meeting's outcome was an agreement between the participants to establish shared Border Trade Zones with uniform regulations and straightforward processes to promote domestic manufacturing and import competition. With the CARs having significant potential and a population of roughly 80 million,

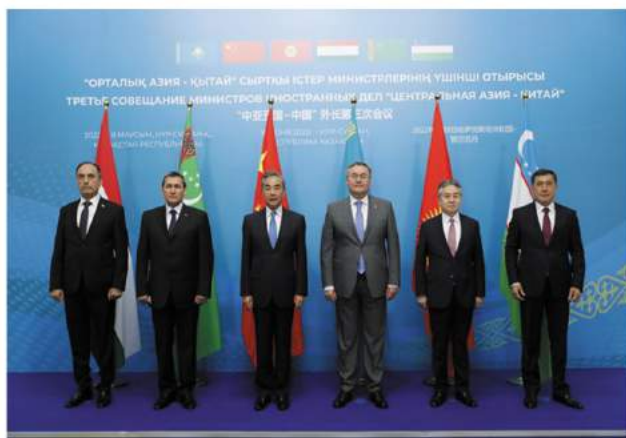
there is a strong desire to look for opportunities for combined trade and economic development. All parties also urged to start a Concrete Action Plan for Green Development and Forum of the Regions in view of the growing risk of climate change. Additionally, all parties agreed to encourage science and technology collaboration, tourism, and culture.



Also, the five countries have decided to provide humanitarian aid to Afghanistan as part of efforts to foster good relations with the neighboring country. The development of a new principle has been included in the meeting which means that the Central Asian republics are attempting to communicate their shared position in case of foreign and external threats. The recommendations and key decisions made in the meeting show the efforts of Central Asian countries to emerge as significant player without the involvement of any foreign actor.

### ***Recent Economic Development***

China has been focused on transport connection with Central Asia and seeks to deepen cooperation of connectivity, this highlights Central Asia's importance for China. Shanghai's China-Europe freight train service was discontinued due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but it has continued in response to a significant increase in demand from trade businesses. The First China-Europe freight train from Shanghai



to Central Asia is launched on 28th July 2022. According to Shanghai Customs, a China-Europe freight train loaded with more than 980 tons of cargo left Shanghai for Almaty, Kazakhstan. To conclude, the latest developments such declaration of Central Asia as a peace zone has further increased the importance of the region internationally and particularly for major powers. The collective approach,

regional cooperation, and strong partnership demonstrated in the fourth consultative meeting by all the heads of Central Asian Republics (CARs) show their common goals in the region and the measures are being taken individually for the country and collectively for the region's prosperity.

## **5- Pakistan, China Seeking For Stability In Afghanistan**

Recent discussions between Pakistan and China have concentrated on the idea of expanding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to also include Afghanistan. According to a formal statement, the two parties held discussions of mutual concern, including the political and security situation in Afghanistan, Pakistan's and China's humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan, and other topics. It is obvious that peaceful and stable Afghanistan would lead to regional development so both, Islamabad and China, noted that connected Afghanistan will also enhance regional trade.

Geopolitical and economic concerns in Afghanistan are shared by Pakistan and China. Both had been released when the Taliban took control of the war-torn nation in August of last year. Both could be fine with the Taliban's reign in Afghanistan, but their security considerations may prove challenging.



China and Pakistan have increased up their contacts with the Afghan interim Taliban government in previous months to look for opportunities to expand economic and humanitarian relations with the turmoil nation. China and Pakistan have increased up their contacts with the Afghan interim Taliban government in previous months to look for opportunities to expand economic and humanitarian relations with the turmoil nation. China and Pakistan are two neighboring states which

believe that if the unrest is not handled, it could lead to a large-scale migration of Afghan refugees and enable international terrorists to conduct cross-border operations on Afghan territory. CPEC is a component of China's largest project, the "Belt and Road Initiative," which aims to revive the nation's ancient trading routes in the south-east Asian coastline nations.



Both parties underlined their strong support for one another's policy objectives and top issues, as well as their commitment to deepen strategic communication, such as at the highest political level and through pragmatic cooperation. Fostering intercultural exchange, offering humanitarian aid, and boosting commerce and transportation capacity is also equally important. Now, India may have security concerns as a result of Pakistan and China's consideration of expanding the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to include Afghanistan. Taliban needs to cooperate as well to make things better and assure their engagement and security while China and Pakistan seek to bring stability in Afghanistan.

## 6- Global Recession And Sustainable Development

It is reasonable to assume that the global financial crisis and the ensuing economic downturn would have had at least the advantage of slowing down environmental degradation in the different nations. The slowdown in economic growth has some immediate advantages for the environment. These benefits include a decrease in the rate of air and water pollution due to less energy use, which directly affects the health of the urban underprivileged. The costs associated with several environment protection measures, like those linked to energy savings, the protection of natural resources, and water environment, are likely to be much greater than the limited gains to global and regional environments that result from the economic slowdown. Energy and environmental investments are impacted on both the supply and demand sides. On the other hand, businesses and households pay less for energy efficiency measures. Decreasing credit and lowering prices have made investments in energy saving and environmental protection less economically attractive, and the economic crisis has caused end users to limit their spending in general.



In addition, solution providers are expected to reduce their investment in research, development and commercialization of more efficient energy models unless they can obtain government financial support. It is a livelihood opportunity for the poor in rural areas. In addition, the development of wastewater treatment plans to limit the release of pollutants into rivers could be further delayed in many countries and is expected to harm the aquatic environment. Thus, in sum, the small benefits to the global and local environment from economic recession can be far less than the cost of many environmental protection measures to improve the living conditions of the poor. The natural resources and ecosystem services provided by the environment

are essential to support economic growth and better living conditions for the poor. Inaction on important environmental issues such as climate change can have serious economic consequences in the future. These concerns justify government actions to support investment in green growth measures and promote direct investment or financial incentives for low-carbon, energy-efficient and

environmentally clean technologies. The investment required to put the national economy on a low-carbon green growth path is much higher than expected.



## 7- US-Japan Economic Security Dialogue

### *Economic Security*

As per United Nation's Department of Economic and Social Affairs, economic security is the key element for maintaining well-being and livelihoods of the people. The overall dynamics in terms of the state security has changed. In the new security paradigm, economic security has significant importance for the sake of protecting national security interests. The powerful economies including United States, European countries as well as China have taken economic security on the forefront making it synonymous with national security.



This is why countries are working together and at country level to achieve the objectives of economic security and for a strong economy which have improved industrial infrastructure and technological breakthroughs that ensures service delivery to the public.



### *US-Japan Talks*

During a virtual meeting in January, US President Joe Biden and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida decided to establish an economic framework. In the presence of China's expanding financial influence, the priority of the two countries will be on increasing economic security such as through creating robust supply chains for essential commodities like semiconductors. On July 29, in Washington, the foreign and industry ministers of the United States and Japan will engage in their first



economic discussion, according to a representative of the U.S. Commerce Department. According to deputy assistant secretary for Asia at the Commerce Department, the meeting is timely because both countries are struggling right now with the reality that economic security is national security, in the wake of supply chain disruptions caused by the Russia's conflict in Ukraine.

### *Japan's Economic Security Law*

In view of the constantly shifting global security environment, Japan intends to gradually implement its new law for enhancing economic security at the start of August. The schedule is a part of the government's proposed law implementation strategy, which the administration received permission for at a meeting of the task force on economic security. To promote economic activity, the government of Japan has determined priority based 20 technological disciplines in order to give

preference while providing funds including biotechnology, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum information science. The government will make an effort to ensure supplies of strategically significant products like semiconductors and will assist the development of critical technologies in an integrated way.



To conclude, the upcoming meeting, officially known as the "U.S-Japan Economic Policy Consultative Committee" will be used to find solutions for promoting economic growth and addressing threats to the global economic order, improving economic security and resilience in the intensely competitive global market. It is appreciable that Japan has realized the economic vulnerabilities and is making efforts through different measures and by implementing new laws at national level and is also engaging with other countries for the promotion of economic security.



## 8- Tehran Summit: Turkey's New Operation in Syria

### *Historical Background*

Syria has been in a civil war since 2011 which has devastated the country. The militant group ISIS took the hold of Syria's majority ethnic group i.e. Kurds territory who located in the northern part of Syria. It happened in 2013 as a result of power vacuum left by protests emerged against authoritarian Government. However, Kurdish militant groups (SDF) in north Syria managed to push back ISIS with the help of the United States support which also resulted in the expansion of Kurdish-led territory. By 2019, US started patrolling across the Syrian-Turkish border. The rise of Kurds in Syria is viewed as a threat by Turkey. It is because of Kurdistan Worker's Party (PKK) group in Turkey fighting for more than a decade with an objective of self-autonomy.

The conflict between Kurds and Turkish Government has taken lives of thousands of people. Turkey is of opinion that PKK is aligned with Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) which comprises Kurdish and non-Kurdish militant groups in Syria and can trigger formation of illegitimate zone in Turkey. Therefore, Turkey has launched at least four military operations between 2016 and 2021 with an ultimate goal to establish "safe zone" in north-Syria.



### *Involvement of Different Stakeholders*

Russia, Iran and Turkey along with other countries such as US, UK, France, Israel as well as Gulf states have remained prominent stakeholders since the start of Syrian war. Russia and Iran is supporting Syria's Government whereas Turkey is a significant ally of the opposition. The focus of Turkey remained on deploying rebel groups to restrain the dominant Kurdish YPG militia in Turkey which is considered identical to SDF and is banned Kurdish rebel group in Turkey. In order to prevent the forces from launching an attack on Idlib which is the final stronghold of the opposition, Turkish troops and rebel allies have taken control of large areas along Syria's northern border.

### *New Operation*

Recently, the leaders of Russia, Iran and Turkey met for a tri-lateral summit in Tehran over Syrian issue where three vowed to continue cooperation. Turkish President Tayyip Erdogan has said "Turkey would continue its plans for a new military attack in neighboring Syria until its security concerns are resolved". On 19th July, 2022, Erdogan met with his Russian and Iranian counterparts in Tehran to discuss Syria after announcing earlier this year that Turkey will conduct a new offensive operation against the Kurdish People's Protection Units (YPG) in northeast Syria.



On the other hand, United States is opposing the idea of operation in view of ISIS as a threat to United States' stability and interests. This could escalate the tensions between both the countries and military options can be contemplated by both the sides. In any case, Syria has to suffer the most because it will weaken the security situation in northern Syria and would impact a large number of vulnerable groups living in the country which are already suffering due to numerous issues such as health, economic and security crisis.

## 9- Rise In Fuel Prices And Food Security

There is a critical relationship between fuel prices and food security. Higher oil prices raise costs in using energy for agricultural supply and production, which increases the cost of basic food. This is a very well global phenomenon that whenever fuel oil costs rise, GDP growth rates drop and inflation rises. It also has an impact on consumer goods, transportation, agriculture, industry, and the purchase of raw materials for factories. Food distribution also gets affected because of the rise in fuel prices.

Fossil fuels are extensively used in machinery and equipment used in agricultural areas, the production of fertilizers, irrigation, fishing, livestock, and forestry, among other industries, in Pakistan under the present circumstances. This is why it is evident that the rise in fuel prices are affecting the food security. Two-thirds of the world's agricultural industry is made up of costly Asia.



Pakistan is also dependent on agricultural production, which makes for as much as a quarter of the total GDP. In this aspect, the agricultural sector has been attacked hard by the current energy and fuel crisis, crop disease, and ongoing climatic and topographical changes. There is a big example of a country which has recently been badly affected by the rise in fuel prices and that is Sri Lanka. The shortage of fuel deprived whole nation from basic human rights which also includes food security. Over 90 million people in Pakistan are already suffering hunger at the time this is happening. However, authorities should also be very vigilant about nutritional insecurity in addition to food insecurity. Malnutrition is frequently caused mostly by poverty in developing countries like Pakistan. There is a need of minimizing the dependence of the agricultural sector on fossil fuels and carbon footprint. The nation's energy policies also need to be updated in order to implement resource strategies. In order to increase financial support and improve manufacturing capabilities for renewable energy, inter-sectorial strategic analysis is also necessary.



## 10- How To Tackle Climate Crisis In Pakistan?

Climate change is something which is inevitable now. Every year, we witness climate events which clearly shows that that climate change is here. The risk of droughts are no less, acid rains causing and water pollution causing oceans to get acidified and melting of the glaciers, this all resulting in the millions of climate refugees in the making.



Pakistan being one of the most vulnerable nations to climate change, made very minimal efforts to mainstream the narrative of climate change, with the nation's economic and political turmoil primarily stealing the show since the country's political and economic issues are much more dominant. Climate change is one nontraditional threat to security that cannot be neglected for longer.

The lives of human beings and other living things is associated with climate change. The oxygen we breathe and the food we eat, is all effected by climate change. Small steps at the individual level do matter and makes a lot of difference. We mostly hear about the bottom-up approach when it comes to climate change but the top down approach can also be helpful to tackle this climate change.

To tackle the climate crisis, adopting progressive legislation and establishing a sound framework for even provincial ministerial portfolios, the role of federal ministries is crucial. Without meaningful structural changes, Pakistan cannot merely grow its way out of the climate challenge. Even the federal climate change ministry itself requires a significant revamp. While nations around the world are doubling, tripling, and even quadruplicating their resources for combating climate change, the government must be open in how it distributes its funds and avoid making programs political. Despite the government, NGO's, and other social workers efforts of planting trees, there is much deforestation in Pakistan which needs to be decreased. By the end of this decade, the federal government must establish medium-term plans to phase out coal. Renewable energy helps the



environment as well as our unstable economy by generating income. Pakistan must simultaneously develop the necessary infrastructure for a smoother switch to electric vehicles (EV). To ensure a strong response to climate change across the nation, the ministry must establish an interprovincial unit as well.



## 11- President Joe Biden's Security Commitment to Israel

The President of United States of America Joe Biden is on a four day (13-16 July) regional trip to Middle-East, it is the first visit since he took the charge of President Office last year. His visit's initial stop was Israel and after that he will be going to Saudi Arabia for Gulf Cooperation Council Summit in Jeddah. On 13th July, Biden landed in Israel and welcomed by Israeli President and caretaker Prime Minister. During his arrival ceremony at Ben Gurion Airport, he said "The connection between the Israeli and American people is bone deep. I am proud to say that US relations with Israel are deeper and stronger than they have ever been." He also added "United States is committed to Israel's security". This statement was given in the context of US-Iran Nuclear Deal talks. A comprehensive joint statement known as the "Jerusalem



Declaration" was released on the 14th July for strategic cooperation between the two countries. The declaration, according to Israeli authorities, is intended to reaffirm the relationship between the two nations as well as the United States ongoing commitment to Israel's security. It is also to highlight the shared principles, common interests and friendship that serve as the cornerstones of the strategic US-Israeli cooperation.

The United States and Israel's other key commitments include the values shared by the two nations, strong dedication to democracy, the rule of law, and the working for the betterment of the world. The Israeli prime minister said after the meeting with President Biden that they also discussed the "Iranian threat" to Israel. Following meetings in Israel, Biden planned to meet Palestinian Authorities and will back two-state as a solution (which is not near) to the conflict between Israel and Palestine. As Biden travels to the West Bank, the US announced \$316 million for Palestinians with an objective to mend strained ties between Washington and Jerusalem and make new efforts for the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

After completing trip to Israel and Palestine, Biden will fly directly to Jeddah, experts see this development as a clear indication of Saudi Arabia's growing acceptance of Israel following decades of boycotting Israel in support of the Palestinians. Prime Minister Yair Lapid said that we are sending a message of peace to Saudis through President Biden. Along with President Biden his secretary of state, Antony Blinken will attend a regional summit in Saudi Arabia. Biden defended his statement against Saudi Arabia given in 2019, by aiming to "reorient but not rupture relations with Riyadh". There are reports that the US will try to reach an agreement on increased defense cooperation between Israel and various Arab countries in order to counter



the threat posed by Iran. Also, amid increased prices because of the Ukraine war, it is expected that discussions will be made for oil and energy as Saudi Arabia is one of the world's largest oil producers. The efforts which are being made by Biden with Arab countries for Israel represent his commitment to Israel's security, but this could enhance the existing tensions between the regional countries particularly Iran while influencing the region's stability and security.

## 12- Sri Lanka: The Island Nation In Turmoil

Sri Lanka has been devastated by a lack of foreign currency, making it difficult for it to pay for imports of food, energy, and medication. For months, its residents have been suffering from recurring power outages, record-high inflation, and currency devaluation. The president has been blamed for this condition of Sri Lanka. The government blames the pandemic for this since according to them, COVID has affected the economy of Sri Lanka generated by tourism. It's the government's failure as well that it was not able to tackle this issue. People are dying while waiting in fuel lines and are struggling to eat three meals a day. It has led to large-scale protests.



The Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL) increased borrowing prices in an effort to combat the country's record-high inflation and restrain any growth in underlying demand. Insufficient foreign money is available in Sri Lanka to cover imports. Therefore, it has stopped selling petrol to regular people. As per estimates, it is the first nation for it since the 1970s. Officials estimated that there was only a week's worth of fuel left for vital services like buses, trains, and

medical vehicles over the last week. There is a shortage of food as well. Sri Lanka decided to concentrate more on supplying goods to the domestic market after its civil war ended in 2009 rather than attempting to enter other markets. Therefore, export revenue remained low while import costs continued to rise. Sri Lanka currently imports \$3 billion more yearly than it exports, which is why it has run out of foreign exchange.

It is quite natural that when the population gets deprived of basic human rights, the frustration leads towards the protest against the government. Population is demanding the removal of the president and prime-minister. People and Sri-Lanka started protesting and the protests are now turning into the violent circumstances in Sri Lanka. Police is there to resist the protestors. As the violence worsens, Sri Lankan police impose a curfew and use tear gas. Violence is not the solution.



The current state of Sri Lanka's economy and lack of political stability cannot be fixed by chaos and force.

### 13- Karachi: The City Being Affected By Floods Once Again

Karachi is a city that has always been affected by floods in every monsoon reason. There is no such crisis management in Karachi for this crisis. This issue needs to be taken into consideration since Karachi, the economic hub is deprived of basic disaster management leaving a city in a chaotic situation every monsoon season.

Since many of the roadways in Karachi's residential and commercial sectors are now higher than the buildings' grounds, water pours off them into the settlements, many of which lack drainage systems. Karachi has been continually warned that none until now is enough to prevent another disaster in Karachi, and that some recent road improvements will actually make the city more prone to flooding.



Now there has been light rain again. However, the roads have been transformed into raging rivers, and low-lying regions next to the recently built roadways have turned into lakes without any means of disposal. Some of these low-lying places have water that cannot drain into the ocean. Karachi residents spend hours in rickshaws and vehicles waiting for the congestion to clear. Individuals and motorcycle riders must wade across the water to get where they are going. This water is frequently combined with the sewage that is building up in the sewer trunks.

Monitory and management institutions need to be effective. They should take steps prior to the monsoon season to prevent floods. Building storm-water drains on either side of highways is important to prevent them from flooding. Currently, storm water drainage relies on the sewerage system (where it exists). This is not enough to handle even a moderately heavy rainfall. The construction of the roads should be done accordingly to



prevent the risk of flood. For example, the roads should not be constructed higher than the settlements. , Karachi needs to have collection points for low-lying areas from where water can be pumped into the sea. It is a very important matter since Karachi is the main economic hub of Pakistan and disasters like floods not only affects



affects the living population there but, the whole economy gets disturbed by this.

#### 14- The Troubled Relations between Pakistan and India

After New Delhi abolished the special status granted to Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 on August 5, 2019, relations between India and Pakistan took a severe hit. Pakistan responded strongly to India's move by cutting diplomatic ties and expelling the Indian ambassador. According to several Indian media channels that cited a

33-page dossier from the Indian Army, which allegedly accused Pakistan for helping militants cross the border for "terrorist actions". The Indian Army made "baseless allegations", according to the Foreign Office (FO) and denied the accusations against Pakistan by Indian media. The foreign office spokesperson released a statement said "We categorically reject the false and fabricated so-called dossier, the reported contents of which were created not



only using false information, assertions and accusations in an effort to draw attention away from India's own blatant and well documented campaign of state terrorism and the prevalent human rights violations in the Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK)".

The Foreign Office (FO) commented on the fact that India, rather than upholding its obligations under international law and ensuring that the people of IIOJK are granted their fundamental right to self-determination in accordance with the relevant UNSC resolutions and in terms of expectations, has chosen to focus on fictional accounts in order to distract from its own failings. The representative suggested India do

introspection in order to organize its own affairs. The Indian attempts to pose as a victim of terrorism and make unfounded accusations against Pakistan over terrorism stand completely exposed. Pakistan's new Government was making efforts to re-establish the troubled and tensed relations; Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif indicated a desire for "meaningful interaction" and a diplomatic resolution to the Kashmir conflict. Also, Foreign Minister of Pakistan,



Bilawal Bhutto Zardari said that making peace between the two states is the solution to constrained relations and parting ways is not in the interest of any side. He emphasized the disengagement would not serve the purpose of Pakistan as well as India, for that economic diplomacy can be considered.



Pakistan's foreign policy must be progressive and open to quickly changing global circumstances but it does not mean to sacrifice on ideals because the country is in a difficult neighborhood and is dealing with numerous external and internal issues. In this context, Pakistan should remain focused on its foreign policy objectives according to the ongoing situation. India and Pakistan should be considerate of the fact that to resolve the Kashmir issue, the arch rivalry due to this issue has resulted in security concerns at state and regional level which pose serious implications. Since the Kashmir dispute is a political one, it calls for a political strategy based on consistent negotiations. With the goal of permanently resolving the Kashmir dispute, both the states of India and Pakistan must sit down at the negotiating table. Bilateral, trilateral, and multilateral negotiations are among the available ways, but it is unlikely that they would succeed if one or more parties refuse to participate in the peace process.

### 15- Importance of Cyber Security

The methods used to safeguard computers, networks, programs, and data from unwanted access or attacks intended for exploitation are known as cyber security. In today's world the users of technological devices have increased significantly, people are more dependent on technology than ever before. No doubt, technology has brought us so much good and it makes difficult to believe and understand the potential risks hide behind this technology. Nevertheless, despite how positively society views current advancements, cyber security concerns posed by contemporary technology can result in serious hazard to society and the state. As the world is going digital, the cyber security threats have also emerged at global level. The government and private players in Pakistan have transitioned to digital services as a result of better internet connectivity; notable innovations include mobile banking and online banking transactions. New methods of committing crimes have emerged alongside digitization. Global cyber security threats have been a challenge, and every government needs a specialized unit to combat cybercrime.



#### **Cyber Security: Future Risks**

The pandemic, cryptocurrencies and the expansion of remote work are all contributing factors to the development of an environment for criminals to take advantage of the crisis situation and usual circumstances. Forbes predicted that the year 2022 will bring a variety of alarming cyber security concerns, including supply chain disruption, and greater dangers from smart devices which will result in lack of cyber security experts due to the high level and increased number of threats.



In addition, during the coming four years, costs associated with cybercrime are expected to increase globally by about 15% annually.

### ***Cyber Security in Pakistan***

The National Centre for Cyber Security (NCCS) was formed by the Pakistani government in 2018 in collaboration with Planning Commission and Higher Education Commission with a focus on network security, smart devices, and cybercrime forensics. PTA has formulated a cyber security framework with the help of cyber security and IT experts. The framework will enable public and private enterprises and individuals to better manage and mitigate cyber security risks. It is being considered as a key step toward enhancing the security environment in the telecom industry of Pakistan. Apart from that, a policy on cyber security has also been introduced in order to deal with crimes associated with electronic systems. This policy was much needed and a useful measure in the time when we examine the position of Pakistan on the Global Cyber Security Index. With the policy,

Pakistan will make serious efforts to improve its ranking and as the country will have a policy, all the stakeholders will have to follow it and those who does not abide by it will bear the consequences. This will improve the overall situation and help to promote digitization in a safe way. To conclude, Government should take all the steps that are necessary for the implementation of the policy for effective and efficient outcomes.



## **16- Saudi Arab, Iraq And Iran: A Growing Relationship**

All of the three states have a very complex relationship with each-other and it is evolving now. Iraqi president has recently visited Saudi Arab and Iran to discuss the regional stability. Iraq and Iran have recently agreed upon joining forces to promote peace and stability in the region. On the other hand, Iran and Saudi Arab, and Iraq and Saudi Arab, are restoring their relations too.

Saudi Arabia and Iran frequently highlight their political and religious conflicts rather than addressing their common regional interests. However, the example of Iraq, with which Iran fought a devastating war in the 1980s shows that differences, even a history of hostilities, can be transformed and set aside when it comes to shared geopolitical and economic interests between states. Iran and Iraq presently have some of the strongest political, social, and economic ties of any two Middle Eastern nations. Same is the case with Saudi Arab and Iran.



Many analysts claim that religious differences between the two countries are the cause of the current “cold war.” They think Saudi Arabia and Iran are in competition for control of the Islamic world. These religious differences between the Sunnis (Wahabism) and Shias (Shiaism) become minor, when it comes to economic differences and competition for regional influence. Five rounds of negotiations between Riyadh and Tehran have taken place, which have been hosted by Iraq during the past year. According to the Iraqi president, “reconciliation is near between the rivals” and this is a sign of shifting political alignments across the region.

Improved ties between the three would benefit not only the Middle East but also North and East Africa, allowing Muslim nations to refocus on poverty eradication, intolerance of other religions, and terrorism as well as advancing democratic changes. Also, their evolving relationship can influence and help preventing the Israel’s control over Muslim holy sites, its expansion into the West Bank, as well as Israel’s covert nuclear weapons program.

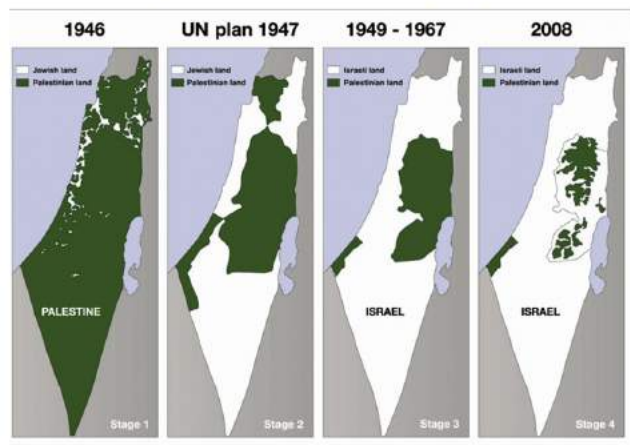


Normalization of relationship between Iran and Saudi Arab will also enhance closer ties with European Union. This triangle of Saudi Arab, Iraq and Iran will also facilitate economic stability in the region. It will also help them to seek stable oil prices knowing how important this market is to their economies.

## 17- Role Of Media In Israel-Palestine Conflict

Israel’s assaults on Gaza has been increasing day by day. The situation there has been worsening even more since May 2021. Protests took place nationwide against the brutal Israel’s attacks and this led to a temporary cease fire for the time being. This became possible because people got to know about the killings of Palestinians by Israelis through social media. The violence has flared up now. There is no proper media

coverage given in case of Israel Palestine conflict. Media plays a very important role in any violent conflict. It can also help in transforming the violent conflict into the non-violent one by giving it a nonbiased coverage. Role of mainstream media is not prominent in case of Israel-Palestine conflict. There is a very minimal role of social media but that is not enough. Media should unleash the world about the





atrocities committed in Gaza strip by the Israel. The world know very less about what is happening in Gaza. There are apparent war crimes being committed in Gaza which needs to be covered by the digital media. Very few reports are there on the war crimes and that too are on the print media. Israel's behavior is represented less negatively. Their human rights violations and war crimes are not labeled as that what they are but, in fact, they are just considered as the violence in conflict.

## 18- Afghanistan Back To The Gloomy Days

Afghanistan is undergoing a major shift backward as basic human rights are restricted there, despite the fact that the war is over and there is relatively peaceful environment. The decade long armed conflict is over but it has left long lasting affects in the region. The Taliban government may still be in contact with the outside community, but there is no indication that they have received official recognition. Even those nations that had been in favor of a



more lenient approach to them have demonstrated deep concern over the Taliban because of their own inflexibility, which was encouraged by the hard-liners among them, regarding women and other human rights as well.

As Taliban did not get recognition and there have been no proper diplomatic relations between the Afghanistan and the other countries, so, the Taliban continued to follow their same old rigid policies. Things would have been different if the Taliban government was not into isolation. While Afghanistan remains cut off from the rest of the world, and is unable to accept a progressive rule that curtails equal rights for women and basic human rights, there is a realization that Taliban challenges being faced by the nation cannot be properly be resolved if the country and the government remains isolated. Not only this, reports of transnational militant groups

reappearing in Afghanistan and posing a serious danger to regional security are even more worrisome. Militant organizations like Al Qaeda, Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the East Turkestan Islamic Movement also use Afghanistan as a base for their illegal activities. These organizations are a major source of concern for the regional countries as well.





Now, Taliban radicals have no hesitation about marginalizing the more moderate Taliban members in order to promote their obscurantist beliefs over international participation. Such a policy will undoubtedly lead to disaster for a nation already battling with serious economic, social, and political issues. Back are the days in Afghanistan where the minority groups and women rights were sidelined and Afghanistan had existential crisis. Taliban government alone cannot take out Afghanistan from this chaos.

## 19- Ukraine War: The Blame Game Continues

Right after the war initiated in Ukraine, the US' Secretary of State, Antony Blinken in March 2022 accused Russia of committing war crimes in Ukraine which were denied by Russia. The United States is the key player in the ongoing crisis in Ukraine and its actions are of significant importance since it is a major super power. For Russia, security is the main concern, which is why Russia has accused the White House of providing targeting data used by Kyiv to launch long-range missile strikes, the role of American intelligence in the war in Ukraine is being closely examined. After the launch of

war by Russia in February, the Biden administration has provided more than \$8 billion in security assistance to Ukraine, despite strongly denying any involvement in the conflict or war with Russia. Moreover, the Biden administration recently announced on August 8, 2022, that it was sending \$1 billion aid in the form of rockets, ammunition, and other material to Ukraine from Defense Department stockpiles as part of its largest direct



delivery of weapons to that nation yet as it gets ready for a potentially decisive counteroffensive in the south against Russia. Russian Defense ministry in a statement said, Washington is "directly involved" in the conflict that had resulted in "mass fatalities of civilians". It is added by the ministry, that Washington is directly involved in the fighting in Ukraine, contrary to allegations made by the White House and Pentagon.

There are different narratives of each country regarding current Ukraine war depending upon their interests. According to the Chinese envoy to Moscow, the "main instigator" of the war in Ukraine is United States of America who has already warned to destroy Russia. The US, according to Ambassador Zhang Hanhui, backed forces aiming to link Ukraine with the European Union rather than Moscow and repeatedly expanded the NATO defense alliance. US have imposed unprecedented sweeping sanctions on Russia while continuing to provide Ukraine with armaments and



military hardware as the primary and starter of the Ukrainian issue as per Chinese Envoy in an interview which was reported by TASS, a Russian state news agency. This statement came after the visit of Nancy Pelosi to Taiwan, before this China warned US of severe consequences, but Pelosi made a visit and as a result China halted military ties with the United States. The issue with the Ukraine war is that the country is not able to control its own destiny, even though it is an independent entity but it is being treated as an object by the major powers of the world. Therefore, it is likely that external powers rather than the Ukrainian government will define the conditions

of the conflict's resolution in coming time. The involved countries and the major powers should allow Ukraine to decide its future by playing a positive role instead of blaming and fulfilling their own interests. The situation in Ukraine has intensified into a significant economic and political standoff between Russia and the West, which is being experienced by all the countries, and if it does not stop it will have a lasting effect on world peace, security and stability.





# Articles





## 1- How To Strengthen Food Security In Rural Areas Of Pakistan?

Definition of food security as per the United Nations' Committee on World Food Security is: "All people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their food preferences and dietary needs for an active and healthy life." Food security is one of the very important part of the national security as well. Food security is directly linked with the population of the state and involves the humanitarian factor that is why it cannot be neglected and can pose to the national security of a state. Massive amount of population resides in the rural area of Pakistan where all the agricultural activities are taking place as well. Food security is equally important for both, rural and urban areas of the country.

### *How Can Rural Areas Be Made Food Secure?*

There are some food related difficulties faced by the people in rural areas due to the lack of facilities, and once they are addressed, only then food security can be achieved. For example, Families cannot cultivate vegetables on the majority of the household-level land in the region due to salinity. Small, on-site versions of a vertical gardening system are built during Farmer



Field Schools, filled with good soil, and then used to grow vegetables. Therefore, the best and most cost-effective solution is a vertical garden system. The majority of the resources used in this learning process are found nearby and are recycled, including wheels and plastic bottles. Improvement in farming methods is needed to increase agricultural production. Agricultural productivity and food availability are negatively impacted by issues like salinity and waterlogging, which have a direct impact on nutrition. Through adaptability and enhanced farming practices, these obstacles can be addressed. Crop yields, food diversity, security, and nutrition are all predicted to grow with improved adaptive farming techniques. Community fish farms are also another crucial component of the idea. Many impoverished communities living in distant regions far from large cities cannot buy fresh and high-quality seafood. The project's delivery of goats and chickens is essential because it gives families reliable and secure food sources. For instance, goat's milk has the same nutritional value as breast milk and its fat content improves digestion.

Change in eating habits is also required to prevent malnutrition. For long-term improvements in under nutrition, social and behavioral changes in regard to eating patterns are crucial because they contribute to a more complete rise in food diversity.



In the developing countries like Pakistan, there is under or uneven development. By these two terms it means that the urban areas are more developed and more is invested in the city sides and the rural areas remain less developed. For example, Baluchistan is a province rich in mineral and resources but it is less developed while Punjab is comparatively more developed. So, instead of investing more in development of Punjab, first the underdeveloped regions should be taken into consideration. Same is the case with urban and rural areas. Rural areas should be provided with some basic facilities which can ensure the food security there.

Understanding how agricultural policies affect food supply, income, and the poor and vulnerable in rural and urban regions, as well as how this burden is transferred on to other sectors, is necessary for managing food security in Pakistan. Another important thing when we talk about food security is to keep a check and balance on food wastage as well. Food waste occurs at the retail, food service, and residential levels while



food loss happens from the farm up to and excluding retail. Poor handling, improper shipping or storage, a lack of cold chain capacity, adverse weather conditions, low hygienic standards, and consumers with poor planning and preparation abilities are just a few of the causes. Simply put, less food wasted or lost means more food for everyone.

## 2- Our Common Agenda: The Path for Sustainable Development

### *What is "Our Common Agenda?"*

The world leaders urged the Secretary-General Guterres to outline a vision, for future international cooperation and suggest ways to revitalize multilateralism in order to address the interlinked challenges of the ongoing century. Following a recommendation in the September 2020 declaration on the celebration of the UN's 75th anniversary, the Secretary-General released Our Common Agenda in September 2021. About 90 recommendations and solutions are included in the report and are said to be "a beginning point for collaborative efforts to build global governance together on foundations of trust, solidarity, and human rights". The Secretary General's vision for the future of international cooperation and the revitalization of inclusive and successful multilateralism is reflected in the "Our Common Agenda" report, which looks ahead 25 years for sustainable development. It was launched in a time when humanity needed it the most during COVID-19 pandemic, the report outlines a course for the future built around a renewal of social contract and increased solidarity with youth and future generations.



An inclusive approach has been adopted among the network of partners from all regions. Moreover, 12 areas of action have been decided by the member states to accelerate the functioning of SDGs in order to attain sustainable development for future generations and leaving no one behind.

### ***Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)***

In recent years, alarms have been raised that if rapid and worldwide progress is not achieved on a variety of sustainability fronts, future generations could confront a future with inequalities and environmental catastrophes. Therefore, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also referred as Global Goals, were enacted by the United Nations in 2015 as a global call to for all by the year 2030, it also known as



the Agenda 2030. The framework for achieving a better, more sustainable future for everybody is the main objective of the Sustainable Development Goals.. It is believed by many that sustainable development is a worldwide concern that should be on agenda, however it can be challenging to incorporate this global agenda into governmental policies. It is because of the challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace, and justice, that humanity is experiencing which have created hurdles for achieving Agenda 2030 and particularly in developing countries.

### ***UN General Assembly Consultation***

The UN General Assembly (UNGA) held a consultation on “Our Common Agenda” in the first week of August 2022. During his briefing, the Secretary-General stated that summits on future, sustainable development goals are the ‘last best chance’ to manage and address global challenges. Additionally, he gave Member States an update on how far the report’s recommendations had been put into practice. According to the Secretary-General, the second SDG Summit in 2023 and the proposed Summit of the Future are “twin summits” with the shared goal of creating conditions for a sustainable, equitable, and inclusive future. He also outlined the connections between the Summit of the Future and the SDG Summit. The latter, he said, will take place in 2023, “at the midway of implementation of the 2030 Agenda,” to review progress on the SDGs, recommend policies, and undertake measures to save the Global Goals.

### ***Sustainable Development: Need of the Hour***

Sustainable development aims to achieve equilibrium and harmony between environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, and socio-political sustainability.



It is defined as development that fulfills present demands without affecting the capacity of future generations to satisfy their needs. To achieve these objectives, “Our Common Agenda” is a good initiative, because of this member states will make serious efforts to speed up the processes necessary for achieving sustainability at all levels. The SDG Summit will help to track the progress of the countries regarding

SDGs to achieve sustainable development and growth. In today’s world, the sustainable development is important than ever before, to maintain a balance between social, economic and environmental demands so that both current and future generations can prosper in healthy way. By embracing sustainable practices, sustainable development promotes resource conservation. Countries should take into



account measures and regulations that help to address the basic necessities of the citizens including jobs, food, energy, water, and sanitation. A sustainable population level is undoubtedly necessary. In order to ensure that developing and under developing economies expand at a level with those of industrialized countries. Therefore, sustainability should be encouraged for development and growth. It will support social advancement, equality, environmental preservation, resource conservation, and steady economic growth that will fulfill the existing and future demands as well as needs in sustainable manner.

### 3- India-Maldives Relations: Security and Strategic Partnership

#### *Introduction*

The Maldives’s location in the Indian Ocean makes country strategically important to India as part of the “Neighborhood First” policy. The Maldives is “a valued partner in the Indian Ocean neighborhood”, according to India’s Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He said that India and the Maldives ties are built on a very strong foundation, the boundaries of these ties can be defined by shared strategic, security, economic, and developmental goals. India and its neighbor to the north, the Maldives have long-standing ties in terms of ethnicity, language, culture, religion, and trade. The diplomatic ties were formally established in 1965, bilateral relations have been nurtured and strengthened between two countries by regular contacts at the highest levels. Despite the long-standing friendship and diversity of the relationship between India and the Maldives, the country’s recent regime instability has posed serious challenges, particularly in the political and strategic areas. The greatest concern for New Delhi has been how the political unrest in the neighborhood will affect its security and growth.



### ***Trade and Economic Support***

A pact for trade between India and the Maldives was formed in 1981 to allow export and imports of the goods. Indian exports to the Maldives include food items and a range of engineering and industrial products, while Indian imports from the Maldives mostly consist of scrap metals. India has become the second-largest trading partner of Maldives, previously in the year of 2021, India was the third-largest trading partner. In 2021, trade between India and the Maldives reached a record-breaking \$ 323.29 million, the first time it had ever surpassed \$300 million. The Maldives depend heavily on tourism for its economy, and one of the priority destinations for Indian tourists. Outside of trade connections, India continues to be the Maldives major source market for tourism. India, which accounts for 14.7% of the market, is the top-ranking tourism market in July 2022.



### ***India-Maldives Security and Strategic Partnership***

Maldives is a small island nation in the middle of the Indian Ocean. Despite having barely 500,000 residents, its position in Indian Ocean gives it significant strategic importance. The rising competition between China and India has brought the Maldives to the attention of the world in recent years. Considering, India-Maldives relations, support and resistance have frequently alternated in the Maldives' relationship with India. Last year, the "India Out" campaign was started by those who opposed having Indian troops stationed in the Maldives which ignited the protests by Progressive Party of Maldives (PPM) and the People's National Congress (PNC) in Malé, the capital of the Maldives. President Solih of the Maldives responded by issuing an order that discouraged the campaign to reaffirm the country's "India First" policy. Also, stated that India is the closest ally and trusted neighbor of the country. India has significantly increased its aid to the Maldives since 2018 in response to the concerns raised over China's expanding influence during the previous Government. Therefore, India is also supporting country's infrastructure, Greater Male Connectivity Project (GMCP) of worth \$500 million, an agreement for financial support and building the largest infrastructure in the Maldives, was announced last year. This project will help Male, the capital of Maldives to connect with three Islands.

### ***Recent Developments***

President Solih came to India for his four-day (1-4 August) visit for a stronger India-Maldives partnership, both sides reviewed existing projects and set targets for new projects. Six high-level agreements including disaster management, women's empowerment, cyber-security, police infrastructure, and social housing have been



signed. Before that, in the month of July, the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between India and the Maldives was observed for judicial collaboration to enhance court digitalization and improve opportunities for IT start-ups in both nations. Even though the Maldives is a small country, but several developed and developing countries are considering its importance due to the Maldives' strategic importance in relation to important international shipping lanes (ISLs). It is a vital route for world in terms of energy and economic flows around the Indian Ocean. The Strait of Hormuz and the Gulf of Aden in the western Indian Ocean, on the one hand, and the Strait of Malacca in the eastern Indian Ocean, on the other, are both choke points for shipping in the Indian Ocean. Geographically, the Maldives is situated in between these two choke points. Other than that, in China's "String of Pearls" strategy in South Asia, the Maldives has become a significant part. India is worried about China's expanding strategic presence in the Maldives. Therefore, India is promoting good relations with Maldives and making serious efforts for political stability and security of Maldives in Indian Ocean to ensure safety of Indian trade and investments. Also, initiatives are being contemplated by Indian Government for maritime security in view of growing influence of China.



#### 4- The Unexplored Blue Economy of Pakistan

##### *Introduction*

Pakistan is a significant coastal state with an about 1050 km long coastal line, a 240 000 sq. km Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), and an additional 50,000 km continental shelf. Due to Pakistan's unique geostrategic location, its ports have a special relevance for maritime trade. Additionally, the development of Gwadar as a port for trans-shipment and transit as part of CPEC has increased Pakistan's marine potential as a significant player in the Indian Ocean region. With the help of Blue Economy, Pakistan's needs for food, transportation, and energy can be met via investments in coastal and different marine resource areas. This is significant because of Pakistan's recent strained economic development, financial instability, investment volatility, and steadily rising unemployment rates. Pakistan needs to explore beyond conventional land-based investment opportunities in order to





diversify its economy, particularly Blue Economy.

### ***Blue Economy: Emerging Paradigm in Pakistan***

The Blue Economy is described by the World Bank as “Sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of oceanic ecosystem”. The Rio+20 Conference of the United Nations on Sustainable Development and Growth is where the phrase “Blue Economy” first coined.

The blue economy has been regarded as the solution to all of the economic issues of less developed coastal nations due to the abundance of oceanic resources. It simply means utilizing coastal and marine resources for commercial gain, with a focus on environmental friendly growth and sustainable development. Through SDG 14, the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development clearly connects



the Blue Economy and sustainable economic growth. In 2020, the Ministry of Maritime Affairs led the initiative of Blue Economy in Pakistan and then Prime Minister, Imran Khan declared 2020 as the year of Blue Economy but the coronavirus pandemic prevented its official launch. In Pakistan, blue economy concepts cover a wide range of industries, including waste management, ports, shipping firms, energy and renewable energy, fisheries, maritime transportation, tourism, and climate change. The Marine Food Processing Chain, Exploitation of EEZ, LPG Terminal, LNG Terminal, Silk Route and BRI, Coastal Development, and Shipping Industry are few of the potential investment prospects by the Blue Economy sector.

### ***Importance of Blue Economy***

Any country's economic development and growth can be greatly influenced by its access to maritime resources, and states with seashores have an advantage over states without access to the sea or any coastline lines. Every maritime state recognizes the value of its maritime resources and makes the best use of them.

Despite having a direct route to the ocean, Pakistan has not been able to fully exploit the water and its resources, primarily because of a lack of knowledge about the blue economy. By using the untapped potential of blue economy, Pakistan can improve its economy and overall GDP. In addition, it can be proved a potential source in enhancing the following areas:





### ***Fishery and Aqua-Culture:***

One of the key export sectors of the Blue economy is fishing. It is crucial for improving a nation's food and agricultural needs. The coastal regions of Pakistan have a variety of key fish species. Currently, Pakistan exports fish for \$250–300 million annually. However, the sector has the potential to increase to \$2 billion annually by using the right techniques for fish catching and adhering to the required packaging protocols. Additionally, 400,000 people in Pakistan are associated with the fishing sector, therefore by improving the sector, there would be additional job prospects and opportunities for employment. Moreover, Pakistan has a lot of potential for raising freshwater and saltwater aquatic populations in well-managed aquaculture settings along its coastline.

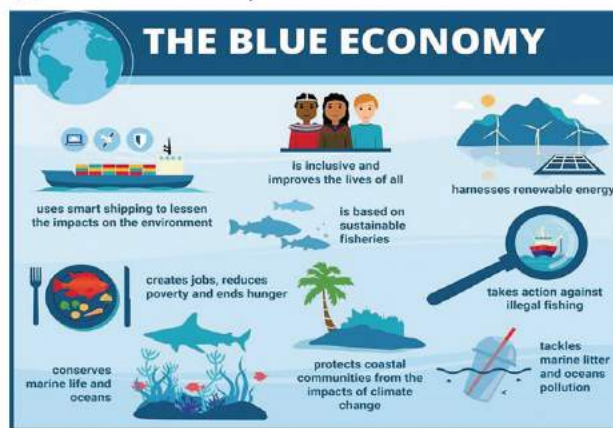
### ***Boat and Shipping Industry in Pakistan:***

By volume, the sea accounts for more than 90% of Pakistan's trade. However, the results are disappointing when compared to regional nations like Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka given Pakistan's fleet size with no general cargo and containership. In today's globalized world, where 80% of trade takes place on the sea, the shipping industry is of utmost importance to any economy. Pakistan should therefore think about possibilities while including various stakeholders that could support Pakistan's maritime and boating industries.

### ***Blue Tourism:***

Pakistan is ranked 121 out of 140 countries worldwide and is one of the least competitive nations in south Asia for tourism, as per World Economic Forum report. For this cause, Pakistan can follow the model of regional country like Maldives who is getting benefits from tourism industry by capitalizing blue economy.

It is done by making efficient use ocean resources. Pakistan have a long coastal area of 1050 km having diverse range of landforms including sand beaches, rock cliffs, headlands, bays, lagoons, deltas, islands that offer the backdrop to a variety of maritime and recreational activities must be utilized efficiently. In addition, Pakistan's beaches needs to update existing hotels and restaurants etc.



To conclude, sea blindness in Pakistan has increased the burden on Pakistan's traditional economy, but blue economy can help it to recover. Pakistan has a huge maritime potential, to unlock its total benefits, Government should formulate comprehensive policy and ensure its implementation. Besides, engagement of multiple international, national and local stakeholders, public-private partnerships must be considered for promoting sustainable growth and Blue Economy in Pakistan.



## 5- Europe Energy Crisis: Ties with GCC and Saudi Arabia

### *Introduction*

Amid of Ukraine war, the energy crisis in Europe is worsening. European Union is of opinion that Russia is using natural gas as a political and economic weapon while influencing the energy security of the region as the prices of electricity and gas are skyrocketing. In addition to that, the deadly war between Russia and Ukraine has affected the energy markets at a large scale and has disrupted energy security at the global level. To deal with the ongoing crisis, member states of the European Union are making efforts to limit actually to end their reliance on Russian gas in order to fulfill the needs of consumers and the country. In March 2022, the Task Force on European Energy Security has been established to take necessary steps for reducing the demand of Russian gas and to find new ways which can diversify energy supply technologies. Apart from that, Gulf countries are being considered as the potential solution for the existing energy problem in Europe. The spokesperson of the

European Union for foreign affairs and security policy, Peter Stano in a statement has said "EU seeks to enhance relations with GCC and Saudi Arabia because it is will be helpful for the people of all the countries". He added, "the development of our relationship and our cooperation is something that the European Union, Saudi Arabia, and all of the Gulf Cooperation Council nations are interested in". That is why, earlier this year



European Union and Gulf Council Cooperation (GCC) made a joint action program for a period of (2022-2027) five years.

### *GCC-EU Joint Action Program*

The program was brought in a sense of emergency among the foreign ministers of GCC and EU that was coming in the form of the Ukraine war. The instability of energy supplies and pricing were negatively impacted Europe's energy dependence, which also constrained its options for handling crucial foreign policy issues with other members. The program was brought in a sense of emergency among the foreign ministers of GCC and EU that was coming in the form of the Ukraine war. The instability of energy supplies and pricing were negatively impacted Europe's energy dependence, which also constrained its options for handling crucial foreign policy issues with other members. The current joint action program is a wide-ranging partnership of the stakeholders on the basis of energy which was initiated three days before the Ukraine war in February 2022. The cooperation between GCC-EU started in 1989 for several joint ventures including energy programs because Gulf countries can be proved as a source of diversification in Europe's trade and energy issues.



The GCC and European Union are working together for enhanced cooperation in terms of economy, climate action, environment, and energy programs.

### ***The EU-Saudi Ties***

Earlier this month, the President of United States Joe Biden visited Saudi Arabia. After Biden's visit, Saudi Crown Prince Muhammad Bin Salman is now on his first visit to Europe since the Ukraine war erupted. In his visit to European Union member states, the first stop was Greece. The deal was made by the two countries for multiple bilateral projects including security, military and digital economy. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has also signed between Greek Foreign Minister and Crown Prince for cooperation in the energy sector, particularly renewable energy efficiency, oil, gas and petrochemical industry. The ruler of Saudi Arabia announced on his visit that the country would use a power connection to connect Riyadh with Greece in order to supply far cheaper green energy to Europe.

After completing visit to Greece, Muhammad Bin Salman met President of France Emmanuel Macron in France on 28th July 2022. The meeting's top priority was to discuss energy ties and energy supplies as worries about potential power shortages has been intensified as a result of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. Russia reinforced its hold on the Europe's energy supplies further endangering the economy, important supplies



and the European energy market prices which are rising continuously. Europe is suffering Ukraine war effects militarily and implications in terms of geopolitical factors. Other than that it is paying through energy and economic crisis, therefore, Europe is shifting towards Gulf countries in order to fulfill energy needs and reduce its dependence on Russia. Energy security became the key issue for EU member countries, to deal with the problem European countries approached GCC countries that are oil rich to cover the aspects of energy crisis. Initially, GCC member countries were reluctant to increase exports to Europe because of certain production constraints and already exports commitment with Asian countries. The US and its allies including UK, EU member countries sent representatives to major hydrocarbon producer countries to reach an agreement for increasing energy supplies. The current visit of Europe by Saudi Prince and his announcement of providing Europe with cheaper energy can be considered as the result of continued efforts in order to ensure Europe's Energy Security.



## 6- Russia-Ukraine Conflict: Economic Effects of Isolating Russia

Russia and Ukraine conflict drew unanimity from the international community, who used trade and financial sanctions to isolate Russia economically. Russia's combat operations reshaped international ties in unanticipated ways with the majority of nations. Russia is the most negatively impacted nation, with production declining by 14.8 percent when sanctions are also imposed by Australia, Canada, Japan, the United States, and the EU. Kingdom. Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, and Poland are among the European nations whose economies are most closely allied with Russia in terms of proximity and economic flow. The two economic sectors in Russia that have been most impacted are mining and excavation and export/import. The effects of financial sanctions, exchange rates, commodities prices, and more are not taken into account. This conflict has caused a number of direct economic effects on the price of key Russian exports, including oil, gas, coal, wheat, and aluminum, among other commodities. At the same time, there was a collapse in global stock markets, a weakening of the ruble, and a rise in the price of gold, a haven for investors during periods of extreme unpredictability. European and other Western nations responded to this military action with immediate, planned, progressive, and more severe than anticipated economic and financial consequences. Since Germany is so heavily dependent on energy, despite the fact that economic sanctions have targeted certain Russian economic sectors, gas imports are nonetheless unrestricted in that country. The purpose of the financial sanctions was to block Russian banks from using the SWIFT system and to freeze Russian assets. Although the conflict has not been ended by these sanctions, they are attempting to make it more challenging to fund this conflict. Despite this, Russia has insisted that it has enough financial assets to sustain financial stability in the face of external threats and sanctions.

At this point, it is impossible to tell how long this conflict will last. The numerous negative repercussions, however, will persist for years and have an impact on both Russia and the nations that apply them. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has stated that this conflict will seriously affect the world economy due to increased energy and raw material prices, inflationary pressures and supply chain disruptions. In addition,

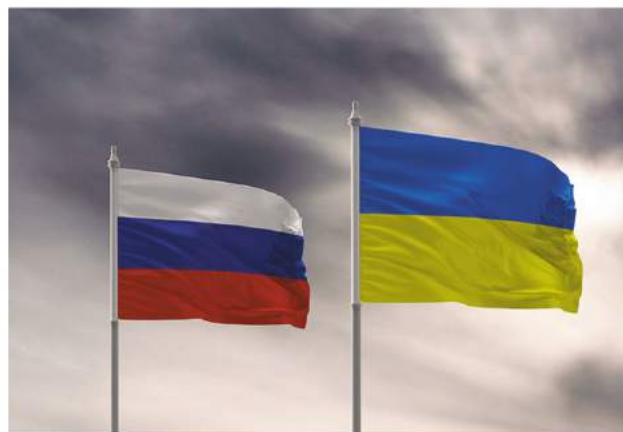




the IMF states that countries close to the countries in the conflict will face serious problems due to the disruption of trade flows and the growing influx of refugees. Economic effects of displaced populations, monetary sanctions, the length of the conflict and the sanctions, the destruction of production capacity, changes in global trade patterns, new geopolitical and trade alliances, and several other factors are not simulated.

Therefore, it is only possible to interpret that for any economic effects that this conflict may have. The effects of these sanctions are also felt in close-proximity European nations with significant commerce with Russia. The effects of these sanctions are

are also felt in close-proximity European nations with significant commerce with Russia, including Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Slovakia, and Sweden, among others. However, despite its huge reliance on Russian gas, Germany's economic impact is very minor. Re-exports and re-imports, mining and quarrying, hotels and restaurants, public administration, metal goods,



petroleum, and chemical and non-metallic mineral products are the sectors of the Russian economy that have seen the worst decreases. In other European nations, the reexport and re-import, electrical and machinery, metal products, and food and beverage sectors are also severely impacted. Financial sanctions, the length of the conflict and the sanctions, the destruction of manufacturing capacity, and changes to international trade all have an effect on the economy in a negative way. Economic effects of displaced populations, monetary sanctions, the length of the conflict and the sanctions, the destruction of production capacity, changes in global trade patterns, new geopolitical and trade alliances.

## 7- NATO Membership of Sweden and Finland is in Limbo

### *Introduction*

Last month, in the presence of NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg in a summit, President Biden announced a historic increase in military assistance along Europe's eastern flank. As NATO agreed to the largest reinforcement of its deterrents since the Cold War in reaction to Russia's invasion of Ukraine, the United States pledged additional American soldiers, bombers, and cruisers for Europe. Biden said that the bold military announcements are meant to send a clear message that NATO is united against Russia's increasing hostilities. Biden welcomed Finland and Sweden as soon-to-be members and promised to defend every inch of NATO territory. It happened after Turkey removed its veto against the two countries agreement.



Because of Turkey's allegations that the two nations supported a Kurdish force in northern Syria, Turkish President Erdoğan has vowed to veto their bids. Sweden and Finland consented to refrain from supporting militant Kurdish organizations as part of the agreement. Amid of the Ukraine war, Turkey's inclination towards Russia, its refusal to join sanctions against Russia and to veto Sweden and Finland over its alignment with NATO fueled the debate whether Turkey is moving away from the West. But somehow the agreement managed to reach by Turkey, Sweden and Finland to open the door for the Nordic nations to join NATO. The deal was interpreted as Turkey's alignment with its Western allies in response to Russian aggression. However, recently the Turkish President met the Russian President Putin which depicts the opposite scenario. Also, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan has threatened to halt the process of Sweden and Finland membership as a response of not deporting the accused militant organization (PKK).



### ***Monitoring Committee***

After the decision was made, a monitoring committee under NATO was formulated. The three countries i.e. Turkey, Finland and Sweden will meet to check the progress of the agreement that took place last month. Turkey which is a 70 years old NATO member has made it clear to block the membership bids of both Finland and Sweden if the requirements of the deal are not fulfilled. Turkey has remained of the opinion that both the countries have actively participated with the militant organization i.e. Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) against the country. As a part of the deal, Finland and Sweden has pledged to not only consider PKK as a terrorist organization as already listed by the United States and European Union. But they will also ensure the prevention of PKK's activities, all other terrorist groups and their offshoots, as well as of those individuals who are a part of associated networks or groups that are connected to Kurdistan Workers Party (PKK) in any way. According to experts, when it comes to the definition of terrorism, Sweden, Finland and Turkey are not in agreement, Turkey may face resistance to its request for the extradition of those it considers as terrorists Sweden and Finland may not view certain individuals as terrorists. The Turkish Foreign Minister reiterated in an interview that Turkey will not approve the accession agreement if these nations do not implement the issues outlined in the memorandum signed earlier.





### ***Turkey Urges Support of NATO Allies***

At a time when the threat to Europe is greater than it has been since the Cold War, the role of Turkey has been successful in keeping the alliance from experiencing a crisis. Turkey's National Security Council has said that "Turkey has urged its NATO partners to continue supporting it in its campaign against terrorist groups including the PKK and the Fetullah Terrorist Organization (FETO) until their abolition". The council also stated that Turkey has completely and genuinely upheld its duties to NATO and that it anticipates other members to do the same. Turkey is of view it will veto membership unless all the demands are completed. On the other hand, as per Article 5 of NATO, the defense clause that declares that an assault on one member is an attack against all, cannot safeguard Finland and Sweden until the accession documents have been ratified by all 30 members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Therefore, Finland and Sweden's inclusion in NATO will be taken in the American Senate and it is anticipated to receive more support than the necessary two-third majority. For that the two countries are considered perfect members that will not only strengthen the organization but will also enhance the political and military sup-

## **8- The Scorching Europe!**

### ***Introduction***

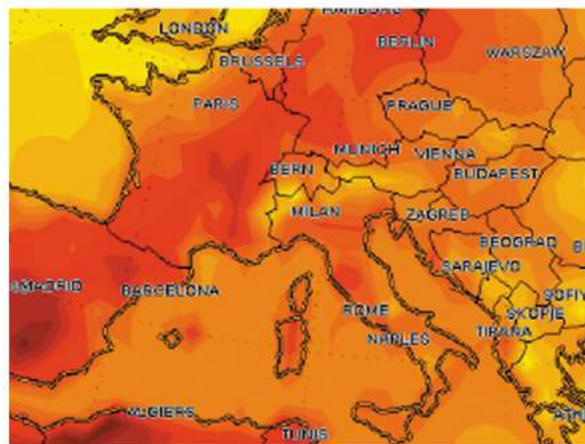
Europe is witnessing extreme heat waves for the very first time which has clutched the whole region by an intense increased temperature. The record breaking temperature has triggered wildfires that have spread over a vast area of nearly 27,000 acres due to which authorities are struggling to control the situation. Almost 19 European countries are still in extreme danger of forest or wildfires forecasted by European Forest Fire Information System. The railway and the transit systems have been destroyed badly in most parts of the region. The heat waves are increasing significantly more than ever in Europe and the negative trend is said to be continued by 2060 as per stated by the United Nations. Recently, in June, major countries of Europe like France and Portugal experienced drought and now the region is in severe crisis again. More than 31,000 people have been evacuated in France and 659 deaths have been reported in Portugal within a week, and alone in Spain, more than 500 people have died as a consequence of existing calamity. The rapidly changing global weather patterns in the form of current heat waves have not only affected Europe but also the United States and parts of China. The United States referred heat waves as the deadliest disaster and almost 600 people died as a result per year from 1999 to 2009. This year China observed highest temperature over 42 degrees Celsius causing death casualties. The spurring death toll is alarming and demands effective measures for the safety and protection of the people.

### ***Climate Change and Heat Waves***

Climate change is being contemplated as the root cause of the crisis and is a major driving force behind record-breaking and extreme heat waves. Heat waves are becoming more frequent and hotter due to climate change.



The United Nations international panel i.e. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has concluded that this is the case for the majority of the regions. Experts have also attributed raging heat waves in Europe to unchecked human activities, since the start of industrialization, greenhouse gas emissions have increased global temperatures by around 1.2 degrees Celsius. It means that the average temperature of the Earth is increasing with the passing time which can create more worsening circumstances in the future in comparison with what all the regions are going through now. Since the base is getting warmer, extreme heat events can reach further higher temperatures and exacerbating dry conditions. Heat waves can have impacts on the livelihoods of people specifically marginalized sectors of society. Also, it will increase poverty, political instability and social tensions as well as food security will also be threatened as it have witnessed from South-Asian countries including Pakistan and India. But unfortunately, it is a dilemma that heat waves are not getting due attention of the concerned and responsible stakeholders to deal with the issue.



### ***President Joe Biden's Plan for Climate Change***

The rising threat has been underlined by skyrocketing summer temperatures, with 100 million Americans currently under extreme heat warnings and devastatingly hot circumstances affecting anguish across the Europe has resulted in Joe Biden's revival of Climate Agenda. On 20th July, while announcing a total of \$2.3 billion to assist develop US infrastructure that can resist global disasters, Mr. Joe Biden said "the health of our citizens and our communities is literally at stake, our national security is at stake and our economy is at risk. So we have to act". He added "Climate change is literally, not figuratively, a clear and present danger".

### ***Conclusion***

Climate change is such an important issue that it should be identified as a concern of national security. The statement by President Biden shows the importance of climate change which is posing serious threats to a country's traditional and non-traditional security. The climate has changed and will continue to change; there is a need of taking serious steps to deal with the concerned issue. It can be done by creating innovation in the existing course of action for adaptation, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and tackle with the issues of global warming in an efficient manner at local, national, and international levels. Here the role of developed nations and the international community is crucial in terms of developing countries, as they are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change, policies must be designed in a way that

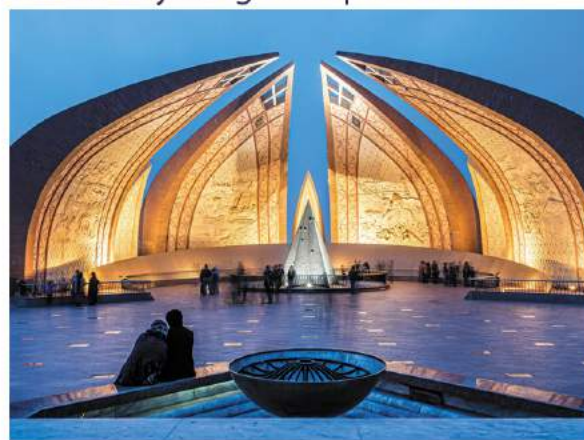


proves a source of relief for them. The current situation of Europe should be considered as a wake-up call by all the countries and stakeholders to make an effort not only to safeguard planet Earth but the people of planet Earth as humanity comes first and should be the top priority.

### 9- Tourism And its Importance For a Country like Pakistan

Tourism is vital to the success of many economies around the world, especially in the country like Pakistan. There are several advantages of tourism in host destinations. Tourism increases the income of the economy, creates thousands of jobs, develops the country's infrastructure and creates a sense of cultural exchange between foreigners and citizens. The number of jobs created by tourism in many different areas is significant. These jobs are not only part of the tourism sector, but can also include the agriculture sector, the transport sector, the health sector and the education sector. Tourism is a great opportunity for foreigners to learn about a new culture, but it also creates many opportunities for local citizens. It enables young entrepreneurs to

introduce new products and services that would not be sustainable for local residents alone. In addition, residents feel the benefits of tourism in their own country. Along with tourist spending, businesses and people frequently contribute to the local economy by investing their travel earnings. Therefore, the tourism sector helps the local economy by generating additional revenue that is then spent there. Because a significant chunk of every cent made from tourism is continually reintroduced into the economy, it is for this reason that tourist income is frequently referred to as the multiplier impact. The multiplier effect is evident here.



Assuming there is understanding and policy on the part of stakeholders to develop the tourism culture, tourism can be a multibillion dollar sector in Pakistan. A nation's image and reputation are assessed based on its ability to offer tourists, particularly foreign travelers, basic amenities. Why can't Pakistan, a nation endowed with stunning natural beauty, earn more from tourism than India and China, which both generate more than \$20 billion year, and numerous European nations like Switzerland, France, the UK, Italy, and Greece, which generate several hundred billions annually. Country is endowed with attractive tourists as well as historical and religious monuments that draw big numbers of foreign visitors. Peaks, glaciers, lakes,





and forests in the north of Pakistan are well-known for attracting both domestic and foreign tourists in their millions. The historical buildings of Taxila and Mohenjo Daro can also be very popular with visitors from abroad. The deserts of Sindh's Tharparkar and Punjab's Cholistan, as well as Pakistan's seashore, particularly in Balochistan, have the potential to draw both domestic and international visitors in considerable numbers. Apart from the natural beauty of Pakistan, there are a lot of architectural sites and jewels in Pakistan, which, if maintained, will attract and leave many tourists amazed.

The governing bodies must ensure that sufficient facilities are provided if they are interested in promoting the tourism industry and domestic tourism. As tourism helps in growing economy of the host state it also does promote cultural diplomacy. Tourism also helps in promoting the positive image of any host country if it's being taken seriously. The government should take all appropriate steps to strengthen the law and



order situation. The government should then offer a variety of facilities in hotels and rental properties. It should be comfortable and simple to travel. There will be a boom in tourism as a result of all of this. The country's tourism industry ought to meet the highest standards internationally. With this, Pakistan would become a highly hospitable nation for tourists. Many tourists travel to experience the host destination's culture, various traditions and gastronomy. It is very convenient for local restaurants, shopping centers and shops. Governments that rely on tourism for a large percentage of their income invest heavily in the country's infrastructure. They want more and more tourists to visit their country, which means safe and modern facilities are essential. This leads to new roads and highways, built parks, improved public spaces, new airports, and perhaps even better schools and hospitals. Secure and innovative infrastructures enable the smooth flow of goods and services. In addition, local people experience the opportunity for economic and educational growth. Tourism creates a cultural exchange between tourists and local citizens. Exhibitions, conferences and events usually attract foreigners. Organizers typically earn profits from registration fees, gift sales, exhibit space, and media copyright sales. In addition, foreign tourists bring diversity and cultural enrichment to the host country





## 10- Climate Change: A Non-Traditional Security Threat

### *Introduction*

Climate change is one of the most significant global issues which are being faced by almost each country in the world. It is clearer than ever that the Earth's climate is changing quickly. As per evidence based on various reports, the changes in climatic patterns can result into catastrophic effects on individuals all around the world. Whether a country is developed or underdeveloped, the impacts of climate change are already being seen in practically all the countries. It has posed a challenge as the the sea levels are rising as a consequence of glaciers melt. Extreme weather events and rainfall are growing more common, while extreme heat waves and droughts are also becoming more regular. Developing countries are more at risk because of climate change and these effects are projected to worsen in the coming years. South-Asian countries and particularly Pakistan and India are facing major issues due to climate change. In 2015, due to heat waves, 2500 deaths were reported in the subcontinent out of which 1300 people died in Pakistan. Among the countries that are most vulnerable to climate change, Pakistan stands at 8th whereas India is at 7th number. Both the countries experienced deadly heat waves this year associated which reduced overall food production, particularly wheat yield at the national and regional levels while affecting food security.



### *Implications of Climate Change in Pakistan*

Pakistan's geographical location makes it more prone to the adverse effects of the climate change phenomenon. It has brought social, environmental, and economic implications for the country. Climate-related natural hazards have become recurrent in the form of heat waves, droughts, land sliding, and floods which is anticipated to intensify with passing time. Pakistan has endured an economic loss of \$4 billion and more than 10,000 lives due to climatic hazards. According to a study, Pakistan has some of the highest disaster risk levels in the world and is ranked 18 out of 191 countries by the 2020 Inform Risk Index. Also, Pakistan's average temperature will be significantly higher than the global average with a potential rise by the year 2090. On the other hand, 20 million people lost their houses, suffered injuries, or went missing as a result of the 2010 floods, according to statistics, which show the devastation they caused. In 2012, there was yet another similar flood situation that created havoc in Pakistan.



### ***Urban Flooding in Major Cities***

Since the last ten years, flooding has been a problem in many areas of Pakistan. It is because climate change has resulted in extreme weather conditions, and monsoon rains have devastated the major cities of the country. In August 2020, Karachi had record-breaking rainfalls in a century that resulted in urban flooding which stopped the normal functioning of activities in the city. In addition to that, it caused heavy property and human life loss as 40 people died as a result of particular event.

In 2021, Islamabad received heavy monsoon rains which triggered urban flooding in the city and caused 2 deaths; this situation has never been experienced before by the capital. But in the current ongoing year, a similar situation is happening again i.e. urban flooding in both prominent cities of the country and at least 26 people died in Karachi till now. This depicts the sorry state of human security, which is basically the form of



non-traditional security, in country. The basic unit of non-traditional security is an "individual being". It also means to make sure human security and safeguard people from threats that challenge their survival on planet Earth. The human security is correlated with climate change as it has a direct impact on people's well-being due to the physical effects of climatic extremes. These extremes can be defined by an increase in surface temperatures also by frequent floods, droughts and changes in natural ecosystems.

### ***Conclusion***

Apart from climate change, there is incompetency at the end of concerned Governments at federal as well as provincial level. It is because issues like uncontrolled growth, poor urban development method, solid waste management and lack of adequate flood protection infrastructure are not receiving due attention by the responsible authorities. Urban areas have significantly changed their dynamics and moving towards more complexities because of increased population density. It is the duty of the responsible stakeholders to deal with both the aspects vigilantly. For climate change mitigation and adaptation, it entails taking steps to prepare for and adjust to both current and expected future effects of climate change by assisting provincial and municipal governments as well as corporate sector for adapting climate change. There is a shift in security paradigm from traditional to non-traditional security; the primary component of non-traditional security is "human being". A country will be called safe and developed, if its individuals are secure. Therefore, effective policies are the necessity of the time levels for the sake people's security. It can be achieved through implementing policies efficiently and collaboration among



different stakeholders at all levels in order to deal with the severe effects of climate change as well as management and governance issues.

### 11- The Quad Lateral Ties Between India, Israel, US and UAE: “i2u2”

India, Israel, the US, and the UAE come together to strengthen their political and business connections while the whole world faces instability. The West Asia Quad is an aspect of the “diversification” strategy as nations search for renewed alliances in a world in transition. This partnership provides facilities for renewable energy and another of food corridor may be announced during the first summit of the chiefs of state and government of India, Israel, the United States, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), known as the West Asian “Quad”, which is also known as “I2U2”

This strategic sustainability seems to take place because of rising political and economic concerns, high inflation, increasing food and fuel prices, and a pandemic that turned upside down long-standing business practices. The I2U2 is expected to promote cooperative investments in six collectively agreed categories, comprising water, energy, transportation, space, health, and food security. In order to help modernise the



infrastructure, develop clean energy for industries, strengthen public health, and promote the development of essential emerging and green technologies, it plans to mobilise private sector investments. The Abraham Accords, which brought Israel and a group of Arab Gulf states led by the UAE into official partnership and recognition in 2020, certainly set the stage for the I2U2. The grouping’s goal is obviously to foster more effective collaboration in areas where both regions can support one another’s economic security.

Israel now has the chance to market its technology-driven products, something the nation is known for, using the financial might of hubs like Gulf states. However, by designating food security as a top summit goal, I2U2 has expressed a desire to address the conflict’s negative global effects. Since the Russia Ukraine conflict, which caused an increase in food prices worldwide, food security has become highly significant.





Gulf states too were the first to benefit from it, owing to Israeli defence advances. Although the corridor was first proposed three years ago with the intention of providing food security for the UAE, its importance has increased in light of contemporary global food crisis, which is in part being caused by grains that are being held at ports as a result of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. With a boost from the 2020 Abraham Accords, which led to normalisation agreements between Israel and numerous Arab neighbours, including the UAE, I2U2's rise can be linked to the fast expanding cooperation among its member countries. I2U2 is being advanced by Washington for several reasons, including broadening the geographic scope of its most important partnerships, reviving alliances and partnerships that suffered under the administration of Donald Trump, and trying to redefine its relationship with the Middle East in a time when it wants a smaller existence there. Biden must strike a balance between maintaining to be a significant player in the region while also avoiding becoming involved in a conflict.

The recent, chaotic American pullout from Afghanistan has only increased Gulf concerns about what future American support without mutually agreed-upon guarantees might entail. Furthermore, they are ready to let countries like Russia and China space in the Middle East in order to broaden their strategic moves and protect their interests. India uses its positive relationships with Israel, the Gulf, and the US to the foundation for economic growth and business relationships. Geopolitics and geo-economics cannot be separated, and the geopolitics of the Middle East remains unstable despite the Abraham Accords. This partnership is going to effect the Iran crisis and will have an equal effect on the Palestine issue. Not only this, but countries like Pakistan and Afghanistan would also have an equal impact. The I2U2 grouping offers a platform for all the member states to identify new areas of collaboration, which could be a game-changer in the region. I2U2 can also be taken as the I2U2 countries strategy to contain the economic giant China since it is already investing a lot in the projects like BRI. I2U2 lacks a compelling, cohesive cause. The Indo-Pacific Quad, in contrast, is motivated by a shared ambition to challenge Beijing. Given China's expanding trade ties with both Israel and the UAE

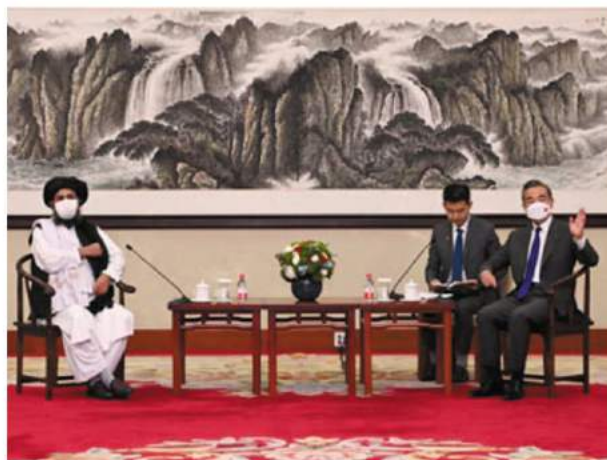
## 12- China's Strengthening Ties with Afghanistan

### *Introduction*

The Taliban have been attempting to reassure neighboring nations that Afghanistan is open for business and that they can protect investment ever since seizing control of Kabul last summer. The Taliban have retained power in Afghanistan for almost a year now. The nation is severely cut off from the West, but neighboring nations, particularly China, have welcomed the Taliban with great enthusiasm. A Chinese diplomat, Wang Yi, spoke about the developments in Afghanistan in March 2022, praising "the Taliban's enormous efforts to calm the situation and their attempts to offer public goods, some of which have been successful".



This early achievement displays definite Chinese influences. The People's Republic of China (PRC) established a bilateral working group with the Taliban in December 2021 as part of the consolidation of its leadership. The discussions included humanitarian assistance and economic reconstruction, the export of Afghan goods to the PRC, the sharing of lessons learned from Chinese economic development with the Taliban, Beijing's support for the restart of mining in Afghanistan, the realization of Afghanistan's connectivity potential, and other topics. China is also utilizing its positive relationships with neighboring countries to forge a regional consensus and convince all of them to back the Taliban in Afghanistan. Chinese government representatives have participated actively in all regional discussions on Afghanistan since 2021 and actively participated in the cause of Afghanistan issue.



### ***China's Relief Aid***

After an earthquake brought to light the negative humanitarian effects of Western sanctions, China's ambassador endorsed trade and investment plans for Afghanistan in a statement. Ambassador Wang Yu presented \$8 million in aid for relief from the June 22 earthquake that killed more than 1,000 people during a press appearance alongside the acting minister for disaster management for the Taliban government. Wang Yu visited the Afghan Red Crescent Society in Kabul to deliver relief amid recent natural disasters that have exacerbated an ongoing humanitarian calamity in Afghanistan.

### ***Trade and Investment***

Officials within the Taliban government, including the group's supreme leader, have stated that the nation needs to become less dependent on aid and promote the business as well as investment in a speech given in July 2022. In addition to immediate humanitarian relief, Wang Yu said "we also have long-term economic reconstruction plans after the earthquake and the political changes last year. Trade would be given first priority, followed by investment and agriculture". This step can be seen as a responsive measure to the Taliban Government's statement which is taken by China for trade and investment in Afghanistan. Two significant mining projects, notably Mes Aynak, a copper mine in southern Afghanistan that a Chinese state-owned corporation that was arranged with the





previous Afghan government, are currently the focus of negotiations. Large concentrations of iron ore and copper can be found in Afghanistan's mineral resources, which are virtually unexplored. In addition, Wang stated that China "always believes that money belongs to the Afghan people" when referring to Afghan reserves locked in Western banks. China has consistently requested that the cash be released from the international community; this money will provide aid to a country in order to improve the lives of the people of Afghanistan.

China which has a massive Belt and Road initiative program which also influences its neighbors has repeatedly urged for the lifting of sanctions even it has a remote border with Afghanistan. As Beijing is eager to push for the extension of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) to Afghanistan and welcomed Afghanistan's active involvement in the Belt and Road Initiative. Nearly all of Afghanistan's



neighbors support the idea of Taliban rule over the long term. Isolating the Taliban leadership will not help to achieve those objectives in Afghanistan, even while it is critical to constantly draw attention to the issues with human rights and the threats posed by terrorism that are connected to the leadership. Instead, Western isolation of Afghanistan has driven the country's leadership toward China and alienated neighboring nations who were hoping to use Afghanistan's potential as a hub for Central Asia and South Asia connections.

### **Conclusion**

Many people anticipated Beijing would immediately intervene in Afghanistan's political system to recognize and legitimize the Taliban leadership in the wake of the U.S. pullout from the country. In addition, it was anticipated that China will start investing in Afghanistan's undeveloped natural resources immediately, on contrast China's strategy has remained deliberate and slow initially. But now China's policy towards Afghanistan has changed and shifted to take on a reasonably active role in a regional crisis that might negatively impact its entrenched interests. China's attitude and actions in the region have shifted as a result of the Taliban's dominance over Afghanistan. It remains to be seen how China would safeguard CPEC, stop transnational terrorism and handle the new issues posed by Afghanistan outside of its boundaries.



### 13- Pak-Iran Trade Ties

#### *Introduction*

Pakistan's relations with Iran are not only based on historic, geography, religious aspects but also on the basis of economic and cooperative linkages. Both the countries have positive relations largely, despite having good bilateral relations; the trade level between the two countries is below the full potential which trade ties can offer. However, now Pakistan and Iran are working together to enhance trade and improve the current trade status. It can be considered as the transformative phase which is undergoing as the efforts are being made by leadership of both the countries.

The previous Government of PTI worked to re-engage and promote political relations, for that then Foreign Minister Shah Mehmood Qureshi visited Iran multiple times. Former Prime Minister Imran Khan also visited Iran at the invitation of then President Dr. Hasan Rouhani. This visit was successful in different areas of the political, economic, and security issues. The aftermath of the visit was a Declaration for Cooperation in Health Sector, commencement of releasing Pakistani prisoners, initiation of bilateral treaties, and new crossing points. Both side also appreciated continuing support for the Kashmir dispute and the issue of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).



#### *Latest Developments*

The current sitting Government is exploring new options to deepen the relations between Pakistan and Iran. Since the new Government came into power in April 2022, official visits have been made to Iran by Pakistan's Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari. The meetings were held between the two counterparts, in May, Foreign Minister of Pakistan emphasized upon the necessity of formalizing cross-border trade by enabling new border crossings.

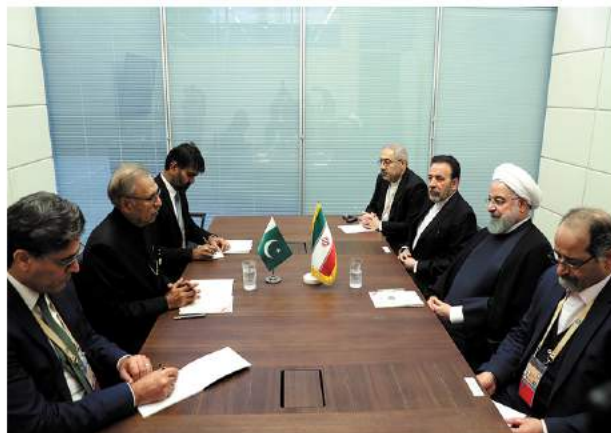
The two parties in a meeting demonstrated their common commitment i.e. to offer prospects for improved economic and commercial operations by promoting trade through border marketplaces which will ultimately help to improve the livelihood of the people in the border region. Last month, in June 2022, Foreign Minister went to Iran for two day official visit.





Last month, in June 2022, Foreign Minister went to Iran for two day official visit. In this visit, not only bilateral aspects were the major part of the talks but trade and economic determinants were also discussed. In a joint statement, the two Ministers announced that operationalizing the barter trade mechanism has brought the two countries closer to resolve one of the primary hurdles in the way of bilateral trade expansion. The need of holding the Joint Economic Commission (JEC) subsequent session in August 2022 was again highlighted by the foreign minister of Pakistan. The security challenges were reviewed in context of Afghanistan's situation and Indian Occupied Kashmir (IOK).

The recent development is an announcement made on 6th July, 2022 by Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail who said "Pakistan is taking measures to improve trade with Iran". In order to significantly increase the volume of bilateral trade with Iran, Pakistan is dedicated to make every effort for addressing the obstacles. According to the press release by Finance Ministry, Iranian



Ambassador to Pakistan Seyed Mohammad Ali Hosseini and Federal Minister for Finance and Revenue Miftah Ismail both underlined the desire to increase cooperation in multiple sectors of mutual interest. The Iranian ambassador appreciated Pakistan's economic initiatives and asserted that trade and other areas of cooperation between the two nations have good prospects and collective efforts will be made to enhance the relations.

### **Conclusion**

These developments are welcoming and there is a need to work on them at the earliest for the benefit of each side. As in past, the relations have been affected and have witnessed ups and downs due to different factors such as sectarian violence in the country and due to external factors in the form of American influence. America's sanctions on Iran remained a prominent obstacle in maintaining relations with Iran not only for Pakistan but also for other countries. The implementation of "Free Trade Agreement" between Pakistan and Iran devised in 2017 got delayed after sanctions were imposed on Iran in 2018. But now the attitude of America has changed after Ukraine war and talks for JCPOA or nuclear deal has also been initiated.

Both Iran and Pakistan need to work on enabling an environment for economic and regional cooperation. With the help of trade ties, there will be the expansion in mutual benefits, improvement of living conditions, and promotion of economic relations between the two countries and other economies of the region too.

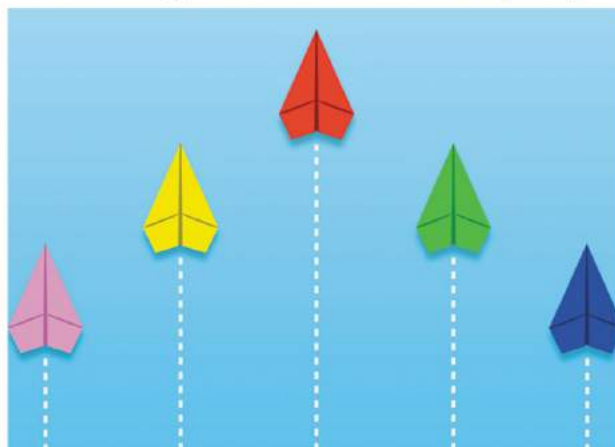


It is important that the two sides maintain relations and recognize potential for the sake of their country's interests and economic development which will prove a beneficial measure for Iran and Pakistan in future ventures.

#### 14- Importance of Intelligence for a State

It is known that International Security is one of the grand strategies of the foreign policy of every state. The role of intelligence in the policy-making of the state is quite significant. By the role of intelligence in policy-making, it means, the importance of intelligence agencies in shaping up the country's foreign policies. In order to enhance the decision making, along with the strategic intelligence which is needed to enhance the decision-making process, states' intelligence institutes are equally

important for shaping the long-term plan of the states. Policy making is the process of developing and identifying the ideas, options, and long-term policies in order to achieve the objectives and national interests of the state. State's individuals like leaders, policymakers, and state's institutions like political, military, and economic plays role in foreign policy. So, similarly, intelligence also has its role too. It has been



analyzed that if the intelligence of the states works effectively, then it will help the policymakers to shape the state's strategies which will support the security and survival. The data and information which is collected by the intelligence are very important because the country's strategy is based on that, and even sometimes, decision-makers blame their wrong decisions on the intelligence that correct information was not given to them due to which there was an error in the strategy. One of the examples of this is when United States waged "War on Terror" in Iraq and justified it by telling the whole world that there are weapons of mass destruction, which later on, were not found. Intelligence was blamed for not giving the correct information. In the fall of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, intelligence services were questioned as well.

Sun Tzu, a Chinese strategist in his book "The Art of War" emphasized on the importance of information. It has 13 chapters that address the general definition of a strategy, up to the usage of tactics such as spies. According to him, all warfare, on the strategic and the tactical level, is based on deception and surprise, and therefore on





intelligence as well. So, Sun Tzu relied on intelligence as in his sight, continuous use of information about the enemy's strategy and tactical capacities is the only effective way to exploit the enemy's weaknesses and gain your national interests. He focused on "know yourself and know your enemy" which is not possible without having information through intelligence. Hence, the importance of intelligence is apparent in national security and every strategist considers the idea of Sun Tzu about intelligence important. Knowledge of the enemy's dispositions is important to obtain and this can only be done by intelligence. The relationship between strategy and intelligence is that whenever the strategies are made for example if we take the example of Pakistan, its top strategy would be security and survival since it has India, an immediate neighbor as an enemy.

So there would be India-centric strategies and for that, it is important to know your enemy. Intelligence helps in revealing the secret information of the adversaries. Intelligence has also played a role in shaping the counter-terrorism strategies in Pakistan along with the other state institutes. Strategies of the states are not limited to achieving the political goals of the states, or for the military purpose and for winning



the wars, but it includes the long-term planning, training, exercising, public awareness, risk analysis, and preparedness. Intelligence and information also have special importance in formulating the defense strategy.

Intelligence does not only play role in shaping the country's policies but also helps to implement those policies as well. Intelligence can play a role in building narratives in people's minds to accept the policy of the state and make people accept the long-term plans of their country. Ordinary people and their interests must also be treated as citizens rather than subjects, so this can cause complexity to formulate and implement strategies so for this, intelligence is also required. Intelligence cannot make real-world easy, but it can give awareness and intuition with respect to the objectives or strategies, resources, leadership, and priorities. Intelligence can keep an eye on that who can ruin the policy of the states. Covert actions can be used to influence political, military, or economic conditions or situations abroad, here the role of intelligence is equally important. Policymakers should not only solely rely on intelligence because sometimes there can be false information or sometimes, but the information also could not be found. For example, the intelligence of U.S failed to detect the 9/11 attack. Though, intelligence-free strategy is surely less possible in this century. Strategies can become more successful if they incorporate information from intelligence. This is even more vital for the process of implementation.



Intelligence aims for analyzing the information in support of law enforcement, national security, military, and foreign policy objectives. Intelligence is not supposed to have its own policy agenda or strategies but the duty of intelligence is to inform and improve policy decisions made by the appointed officials.

## 15- CPEC and Pak-China “Strategic Partnership” Despite Challenges

### *Introduction*

A high-level delegation of all the armed forces i.e. army, navy, and air force of Pakistan visited China for a three-day meeting of the Pakistan China Joint Military Cooperation Committee (PCJMCC) from 9th-12th June 2022. The Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Qamar Javed Bajwa also joined the meeting along with tri-service delegation and Chinese Generals followed by an apex committee which is the highest military cooperation body. The committee is comprised of two sub-committees, including Joint Cooperation Military Affairs (JCMA) and Joint Cooperation Military Equipment and training (JCMET). In a statement released by Inter Services Public Relations (ISPR), it is said that the tri-service delegation had discussions with the Chinese military and other governmental departments on various topics. By maintaining their “strategic partnership in difficult times, both the countries China and Pakistan have decided to increase their defense cooperation. In apex committee, as per the statement “Both countries discussed their perspectives on the international and regional security situation and expressed satisfaction on defense cooperation between the two countries”. The two sides also committed to improve tri-service level training, technology, and counter-terrorism cooperation.



### *Flashback*

In April 2022, three Chinese were targeted and killed in Karachi because of a bombing attack, an ethnic separatist organization claimed the responsibility of this attack who is operating in Baluchistan. The aim of the militant group is to eliminate the economic and diplomatic footprints from the region. Not only that, the insurgent group also targeted CPEC infrastructure projects, such as gas pipelines and electricity towers. Since the start of China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) in 2015, there is an increase in attacks on Chinese nationals which concerns the China's Government. Therefore, demands are being made to intensify strict regulations and security standard operating procedures for Chinese nationals. On Chinese requests, Islamabad Police established a foreign security cell at the Central Police Office (CPO).



### ***CPEC and Pak-China Relations despite Challenges***

India and other western sponsors did negative propaganda regarding CPEC using media outlets to create unrest between the relations of two countries. But all these rumors were rejected as the new Government has announced the budget for fiscal year 2022-2023, Rs 800 billion has been allocated to Public Sector Development Program (PSDP) with a focus on CPEC.

The reactivation of CPEC and related projects for interprovincial and regional connectivity as well as special economic zones (SEZs) to encourage commerce, industrialization and job creation are key features that are mentioned in the PSDP. Concessional finance deal for a multi-billion dollar ML-1 project under CPEC is expected to be finalized in the second quarter of the fiscal year, according to the annual plan



2022-23. Following that, arrangement will be made for the implementation of other projects under CPEC. Six energy projects with a total installed capacity of roughly 3,284MW are now under construction, in the fourth quarter of FY2021-22 it is expected that 11050MW will be completed. In addition, in 2022-23, the following projects are anticipated to begin:

**Construction of Breakwater.**

**Dredging of Breathing areas and Channels.**

**Gwadar Smart Environment Sanitation System and Landfill project for Gwadar.**

**Construction of Boat making industry on Gwadar West Bay.**

**MGD Desalination Plant in Gwadar.**

Regardless of the challenging times, last month after the attack on three Chinese teachers and their Pakistani driver, Foreign Minister Bilawal Bhutto Zardari visited China at the invitation of his counterpart Wang Yi. The two sides condemned the incident and pledged to strengthen counterterrorism and security cooperation, also they urged other regional countries and the international community to collaborate and fight together against terrorism in all its forms and shapes. Meanwhile, the tensions between China and the West are deepening. West is pressurizing Pakistan for its stance on the Russia-Ukraine war but Pakistan has maintained a balanced approach till now. Both China and Pakistan are of the view to remain alert during the ongoing crisis and emphasized the use of diplomacy and dialogue to overcome differences and disputes. Importance of China-Pakistan strategic relations has assumed even greater significance" due to recent "profound regional and international changes.



Pakistan must take special measures for CPEC projects through the integrated mechanisms, approval and allocation of funds, and better “security arrangements” for the smooth functioning of public-private partnerships in the country. There is a need to improve governance, rule of law and security arrangements not only to ensure the security of Chinese nationals and to complete CPEC projects but also to maintain good relations and friendly ties with China. It is important for Pakistan’s economic and political stability, and “strategic partnership” between the two countries. Regular exchange of perspectives on issues of mutual interests is a true example of Pak-China friendship which is also evident from the current apex meeting where China and Pakistan vowed to support each other’s core interests.



## About Pakistan House

Pakistan House, an Institute of International Affairs, is an independent policy institute based Islamabad.

Our mission is to help build a positive, secure and balanced world approach toward developing societies.

### ***Founded in 2012***

Pakistan House collaborates with universities, think tanks, governments, the private sector, civil society and diaspora. Each year, the institute organizes more than a dozen events – conferences, workshops, briefings, group discussions and roundtables – in Europe and Pakistan.

### ***Think Tanks***

Pakistan House carries out independent and critical analysis of regional and international security issues and country specific challenges and opportunities (e.g. Pakistan & Afghanistan). It consistently carries out scholarly discourse with global think tanks.

### ***Digital Collections***

The institute's newsletter, assessments reports, books, and other research outputs are a vital resource for policy-makers in and civil society. Pakistan's leading efforts in stabilizing South Asia and beyond coupled with an up-to-date commentary on security-related topics are some of the main themes. Our digital collections are archived and searchable on the website.

### ***Policy Issues***

Pakistan House carries out an independent and critical analysis of regional and international security issues and country-specific challenges and opportunities (e.g. Pakistan & Afghanistan). It consistently carries out scholarly discourse with global think tanks.





PakistanHouseOfficial



@Pakistanhouse11