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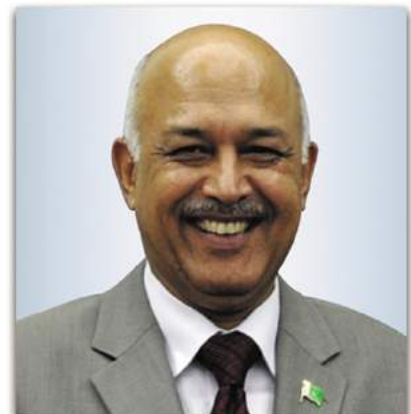
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SADDAM TAHIR
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OFFICE MANAGER



SOHAIL IQBAL
IT ADMINISTRATOR



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EZBA WALAYAT
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HARIS ALI KHAN
Research Associate, Afghan Expert



In the modern age, diplomacy has undergone a significant transformation. With the advent of technology, diplomacy has been taken to a whole new level, and digital diplomacy has emerged as an effective tool for nations to communicate with one another. Digital diplomacy is defined as the use of digital tools and social media platforms to promote a nation's foreign policy objectives. It is a tool for governments to communicate directly with the public, bypassing traditional media outlets. The use of social media platforms and digital tools have transformed the way in which governments communicate with each other and with the public.

Thirdly, digital diplomacy is cost-effective. Traditional diplomacy is often expensive, involving extensive travel and the use of physical resources such as embassy buildings. Digital diplomacy, on the other hand, is relatively cheap, requiring only an internet connection and access to digital tools.

Digital diplomacy has also been used to promote peace and security. For example, the United Nations has used digital diplomacy to promote peace and security in conflict zones around the world. The UN has established a dedicated digital diplomacy team, which is responsible for using digital tools to promote peace and security. Digital diplomacy also has its challenges. One of the main challenges is the lack of regulation. Digital diplomacy is a relatively new field, and there are few regulations governing its use. This lack of regulation can lead to misuse of digital tools, such as the dissemination of fake news or the manipulation of public opinion.

Digital diplomacy is an essential tool in the diplomatic toolbox. It allows governments to communicate directly with the public, bypassing traditional media outlets, and promotes real-time communication. However, digital diplomacy also presents challenges, such as the lack of regulation. Governments around the world must work together to regulate the use of digital tools in diplomacy to ensure their effective and responsible use.

2- Owing To The Sikh Separatist Group, Trade Negotiations Between India And Britain Have Halted

India has withdrawn from trade talks with Britain, claiming that Britain has failed to condemn the Sikh separatist group responsible for attacking the Indian High Commission in London last month. A source from Whitehall stated that India is refusing to engage in trade discussions until there is a public display of condemnation towards Khalistan extremism in the UK.

The attack occurred on March 19 when demonstrators with Khalistan banners protested at the High Commission and removed the Indian flag from the building's first-floor balcony. Khalistan is an independent Sikh state sought by some groups, but it does not exist. India has protested against the actions taken by separatist elements against their mission in London, summoning the most senior British diplomat in New Delhi. British Foreign Minister James Cleverly has promised to review security at the Indian High Commission in London following the "unacceptable acts of violence" towards the mission's staff.

Protests have erupted outside Indian consulates in Britain, Canada, and the United States after the Punjab police launched a manhunt for Sikh separatist Amritpal Singh, who has been advocating for the creation of Khalistan. The Punjab police have been searching for Singh since March 18, and have taken measures such



as cutting off mobile internet in the Sikh-majority northern state of 30 million people for days, arresting more than 100 of his followers, and banning gatherings of more than four people in certain places.

Khalistan alludes to an autonomous Sikh state looked for by certain gatherings however which doesn't exist. As indicated by the BBC, swarms had accumulated external the high commission's structure windows were broken, after which India requested a clarification for the "complete shortfall of English security" in the vicinity. Indian every day The Hindu detailed that essentially 100 cops were standing gatekeeper on the two roadsides outside the High Commission in London.

Experts in India's northern territory of Punjab had likewise sent off a significant quest for Singh, who has ascended to noticeable quality lately requesting the production of Khalistan, a different Sikh country. Indian specialists had broadened a versatile web power outage across a condition of around 30 million individuals as police chased a Sikh minister,

Amritpal Singh. That very day, police said they had captured 114 individuals up until this point however Singh's whereabouts were obscure.



3- Turkey Towards European State's Ratification Of Becoming NATO Members

Turkey and Hungary were the only states that had not yet confirmed the Nordic nations' bids for membership in NATO, which needed the unanimous support of all 30 of its current members to do so. The Turkish government raised greater concerns about Sweden than Finland, although both were accused of being overly lenient towards organisations it considers to be terrorist organisations. When Sweden and Finland requested to join NATO last year, Turkey unexpectedly objected, claiming that both nations harbour members of the Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), which is regarded as a terrorist organisation by Ankara and its Western allies.

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in the defence alliance was fulfilled by the vote. Finland's president, Sauli Niinisto, declared in a statement following the vote that his nation is "today prepared to join NATO." "Finland's membership in NATO has now been approved by all 30 members." I want to thank every one of them for their trust and support," he also said. "Finland will be a strong and capable ally, committed to the security of the Alliance". "We look forward to welcoming Sweden to join us as soon as possible," the Finnish president added. Jens Stoltenberg, the secretary general of NATO, also praised the choice. "I appreciate the Grand National Assembly of Turkey's decision to ratify Finland's admission. As long as a nation is able and willing to follow the ideals of the alliance's founding treaty, it can be asked to join NATO if it indicates interest in doing so. Then, Turkey and Hungary changed their minds on Finland's admission, allowing it to become a member earlier this month. Monday's vote in support of Finland's application was 182 to 6 in favour in the Hungarian Parliament. Yet, under Erdogan's leadership, the nation has evolved into a rather problematic member.



4- Ecuador in Crisis: A State of Emergency is Declared

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Finland's application to join NATO has now been approved by Turkey, ending months of delays; nevertheless, Sweden's desire to join the military alliance is still being denied. On Thursday, the Turkish Parliament passed the final barrier to membership by voting overwhelmingly in support of Finland's admission. Recep Tayyip Erdogan's "commitment" to include Finland

Most of Ecuador is expected to experience severe weather through at least March 24. The National Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology of Ecuador (INAMHI) has issued a weather warning for rain and thunderstorms in several parts of the country. Red alerts, the highest level on a three-tier scale, have also been issued in several areas. It was noted that about 16 people died and 460 suffered injuries due to the earthquake in the country. Initial reports indicated that the majority of the fatalities occurred in El Oro which also suffered 29 aftershocks, a southern province bordering Peru. As per authorities, at least 235 homes were affected in the wake of the earthquake which severely damaged the nation's infrastructure. Furthermore, official sources also reported that 148 schools, 48 health facilities and 17 other public buildings felt damages in varying degrees, in addition to 90 houses that demolished completely.

According to a statement from the Ministry of Economics and Finance, financial aid would be provided to the government agencies so they can deal with the needs of earthquake-affected individuals more efficiently. Moreover, the most affected areas will be given access to the full network of disaster protection and bonds. The decision by the Ecuador's Government to activate an emergency response



plan is commendable, but its execution is more crucial to help the country's citizens. Since the weather forecasts indicate worsening conditions which can have an impact on a significant number of people, therefore, immediate action is imperative to ensure the safety of lives and the provision of basic needs.

5- Strengthening Alliances: China's President Xi Jinping's Visit To Russia

On March 22, 2023, Chinese President Xi Jinping returned to China after his first trip to Russia since the start of the war in Ukraine last year. The two leaders of China and Russia, Xi Jinping and Vladimir Putin, have made announcement on a range of issues after their meeting. Moreover, they discussed the conflict in the Ukraine, the influence of the United States and NATO, economic cooperation and military cooperation. A deal was reached by the two nations, which marked the beginning of a new era of cooperation in ties between Russia and China. Furthermore, to end the Ukraine conflict, the two leaders urged for a "responsible dialogue." In this regard, Russian President Putin hailed President Xi Jinping for a peace plan for Ukraine that he introduced last month.

Vladimir Putin, the President of Russia, and Xi Jinping, the president of China, have signed several documents on strategic cooperation between Moscow and Beijing following what Putin referred to as successful and constructive meetings at the Kremlin. The discussions between the two counterparts were aimed to strengthen the no limits alliance that the two leaders had announced in February 2022, just before the Russia-Ukraine war started. "We signed an agreement on deepening the strategic partnership and bilateral ties, which are entering a new era." Xi said after the discussions with Putin on March 21, 2023.

Xi appreciated constructive talks, pointing to an increase in trade and economic cooperation with Russia, which included the shipment of more Chinese electronic products. According to Putin, further gas shipments to China have been agreed upon, and the two nations intend to improve their transportation connections by constructing new highways and bridges. Putin also emphasized the importance



of agricultural cooperation in particular and said that Russia was prepared to increase grain and meat exports to China. Additionally, he said that by working together, the two nations might overtake rivals in IT and AI. Media sources indicate that Xi and Putin agreed in a joint statement that Russia and China "will build a closer energy partnership, supporting companies from both countries in advancing cooperation projects in oil, gas, coal, electricity and nuclear energy." The two leaders decided to "expand bilateral trade, cooperation in energy and food security and development of rail and other cross-border logistics infrastructure". In their joint statement, Xi and Putin also decided to "further deepen military mutual trust" between the two countries.

6- China's Warning: Potential for Conflict and Confrontation with the US over Taiwan is Rising

Introduction

The Taiwan issue has complicated the US-China relationship. By maintaining a robust arms sales program, the United States has consistently supported Taiwan diplomatically and militarily. The U.S. has recently approved a potential sale of \$619 million for weapons to Taiwan which also includes missiles for F-16 fleet.

As a response, on 3rd March, 2023, the Chinese military spokesperson said in a statement "We demand that the U.S. to stop selling arms to Taiwan, stop military contact with Taiwan, stop meddling in the Taiwan question and exacerbating tensions across the Taiwan Strait." It is because the delivery of American weapons to Taiwan not only constitutes open interference in Chinese internal affairs but also is a serious violation of the one-China principle.

Background

Taiwan, Ukraine-Russia war and technical dominance are just a few of the problems where the interests diverge between the two countries, the United States and China. However, tensions increased last month after an alleged Chinese spy balloon was shot down by American fighter jets while flying over North America, bringing relations between the two powerful economies in the world to a record low followed by the United States



increased support for Taiwan's military training. China announced that its military spending would increase at the quickest rate in four years because of escalating external threats.

China's Foreign Minister warns of conflict with U.S.

On 7th March, 2023, China's new Foreign Minister Qin Gang delivered a sweeping rebuke of American policies at his first news briefing in the new role, and made a warning that "conflict and confrontation" with the United States is inevitable if Washington does not change the direction. He added "The U.S. claims that it seeks to out-compete China but does not seek conflict. Yet in reality, its so-called competition aims to contain and suppress China in all respects and get the two countries locked in a zero-sum game." He also said that "Washington's approach toward Beijing is a reckless gamble with the stakes being the fundamental interests of the two peoples and even the future of humanity."

Conclusion

To conclude, Taiwan is a crucial island but its future is uncertain. At the moment, China, Taiwan and the United States all have a very little margin for miscalculation as the smallest mishap by any country can lead to an instant escalation or serious armed confrontation. To avoid conflict, the three countries should maintain diplomatic connections, encourage communication and dialogue to achieve effective results. Also, the international community must play its role in maintaining the peace and stability of the Taiwan Strait.

7- Key Takeaways From the “Our Ocean Conference (OOC), 2023”

Introduction

The Republic of Panama, the first Central American country, hosted the 8th edition of “Our Ocean Conference” in March 2023. The conference’s main theme was, “Our Ocean, Our Connection,” provided a forum for collaborative discourse between heads of state, the private sector, civil society and academia on marine resource conservation and sustainable usage, as well as ocean awareness among the general public. The core objective was to draw attention to the crucial significance of setting up interconnected networks of efficient area-based management practices, such as Marine Protected Areas, developing the global blue economy and suggesting creative solutions to the problem of marine pollution.

New Programs by United States

According to a press statement from the United States Department of State, the country highlighted fresh and recently initiated international projects totaling more than USD 800 million to protect ocean and assist developing countries during the Our Ocean Conference (OOC) in Panama. These programs included measures like encouraging the creation of marine protected areas, supporting partner nations



in protecting and managing the marine resources, as well as boosting coastal areas overall ability in context with climate change. In addition, as part of the efforts to address the climate crises and safeguard ocean health and security, USAID is launching and expanding on twelve programs worth over \$84 million, subject to funding availability and Congressional approvals.

Ocean Protection Commitments by the European Union

The European Union (EU) announced 39 commitments for the year 2023 during the Our Ocean Conference in Panama, reiterating its strong support for global ocean governance. The €816.5 million has been allocated for these initiatives. Since the beginning of the Our Ocean Conferences in 2014, this is one of the largest amounts the EU has ever committed. Moreover, EU also joined Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing Action Alliance.

Conclusion

Around 71% of the surface of the Earth is comprised of oceans and seas which are under high pressure due to global warming, unsustainable practices, illegal fishing, pollution and the loss of marine habitats, these are just a few of the issues that are disturbing the oceans. Till now, more than 1,800 commitments totaling around \$108 billion have been made, protecting more than 5 million square miles of ocean, since the Our Ocean Conference started in 2014. But there are still many issues that need to be addressed. Globally, ocean conservation is essential for both economic and environmental reasons. Oceans are crucial for maintaining a stable climate, supporting the blue economy, lowering temperatures, absorbing carbon dioxide, and generating oxygen. Therefore, countries must collaborate to safeguard the oceans by enforcing regulations and formulating policies and strategies that support the sustainability and health of the oceans.



Articles



1- Climate Change: A Threat to Global Food Security

Introduction

Climate change poses a serious danger to the global food security, due to its direct and indirect effects on food availability and production. Crop yields are declining as a result of rising temperatures and extreme weather events, which are causing a rise in food insecurity. Extreme weather conditions, natural calamities, and economic and social unrest can have a severe impact on food availability. It is crucial to lessen the effects of climate change in order to alleviate global food insecurity by lowering emissions, using more effective and sustainable agricultural techniques and funding initiatives that advance food security.

Global Food Insecurity

Food insecurity (FI) describes the lack of consistent access to enough food for every person in a household to live an active, healthy life. A significant problem the world is currently confronting is global food insecurity. It is a condition that is characterized by a lack of economical, nutritious, and safe food options, which can cause hunger and malnutrition. The number of people impacted by global food insecurity increased from 135 million



in 53 nations in 2019 to 345 million in 82 countries in 2022, according to an article published by the World Economic Forum. Global food insecurity is exacerbated by climate change, which has an impact on food production and delivery systems by increasing food prices while reducing the availability of food. According to the World Bank, as a result of the conflict in Ukraine, supply chain disruptions, and the ongoing economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of people experiencing acute food insecurity has increased significantly. There are approximately two billion malnourished people in the globe, and by 2050, it is predicted that humanity will need 60% more food to feed everyone. To fulfill the expanding demand, however, the agriculture sector still lacks the necessary resources.

Impacts of Climate Change on Food Security

Food security is significantly and directly impacted by climate change. Due to changes in weather patterns, environmental disruptions and extreme weather events like floods and droughts, not only causes crop failure and famine, but also impacts and challenges the food security.

The impacts of climate change on the global food supply are extensive. Food production is impacted by a variety of climate change-related factors including increased temperatures, more frequent droughts, decreasing soil fertility, floods and storms. Before the situation gets worse, action must be taken to curb food insecurity brought on by climate change. Governments and organizations on a local, national and international level must take proactive measures to develop food strategies that can better withstand climate variability in order to reduce the negative effects of climate change on food security. It can be accomplished through increasing investment in climate-resilient agriculture, promoting sustainable food systems i.e. including regenerative agriculture, improving food waste management and encouraging local food production. Furthermore, it is important to invest in adaptation and mitigation strategies that can help to reduce the impacts of climate change on global food insecurity.

2- “The Dangers Of Abandoned US Arms In Afghanistan: How They Have Fallen Into The Hands Of TTP”

Radio Liberty’s most recent report claims that terrorists behind assaults within Pakistan have apparently received US weaponry that were left behind in Afghanistan. According to the research, the proliferation of these weapons has improved the military prowess of the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a banned organization, and Baloch separatist organizations, leading to an increase in bloodshed in Pakistan over the past two years.

As US soldiers departed Afghanistan in 2021, they left behind a large amount of military hardware, including armored vehicles, communications equipment, and weaponry, valued at about \$7 billion. During the turbulent retreat, the Afghan Taliban grabbed control of the weaponry, and according to radio reports, some of the American military hardware and weapons have turned up in Pakistan since the Taliban assumed control of



Afghanistan. According to a researcher based in Sweden who tracks the banned Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), these weapons have been used by armed groups fighting the Pakistani government, having a “terrifying” effect on the police force, which is not as well-equipped. This is especially true given the sophisticated combat weapons available to the TTP.

Regrettably, the Taliban and other extremist organizations now possess these weapons and are utilizing them to carry out attacks on targets in Pakistan and Afghanistan. As some of the American military hardware and weapons have been linked to Pakistan, where they have been utilized by armed organizations opposed to the Pakistani government, the issue has drawn the attention of Pakistani officials. For the past two years, there has been an increase in violence as a result of this influx of guns strengthening the military capacities of the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP), a proscribed organization, and Baloch separatist organizations.

Also, Pakistan's security has come under serious threat due to the use of American weaponry in terrorist acts, which has also impacted Pakistan's ties with the US. Officials in Pakistan have expressed alarm over the US's failure to stop the supply of weapons from Afghanistan, which has a direct impact on the unrest there.

In conclusion, the surge in violence in Pakistan following the withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan highlights the



catastrophic consequences of leaving behind such a large quantity of military equipment and weapons. The inability of the US to control the flow of weapons has allowed extremist groups to gain access to sophisticated combat weapons, causing devastation to both Afghan and Pakistani security. It is high time for the US and other international actors to take responsibility and find solutions to address this alarming situation.

3- China Warns of Consequences as Taiwan's President Visits The United States

Taiwanese President Tsai Ing-wen set out on a 10-day trip to Central America on March 29, 2023, passing through the United States twice. Tsai's visit to Central America came after Honduras' decision to sever diplomatic ties with Taipei in favor of Beijing as well as it is anticipated that Paraguay will do the same following the upcoming elections in April. Tsai Ing-wen said after arriving in New York City that relations between Taiwan and the United States have "closer than ever." The White House's national security spokesman John Kirby said, the United States wanted a "normal, uneventful transit," he added that this is Tsai's seventh transit through the United States while serving as Taiwan's President.

During her transit in US, Tsai Ing-wen praised the island's ties with the United States. Earlier, Tsai praised Taiwan as a beacon of democracy in Asia and proclaimed that despite the enormous problems it faced, the island would not be left cut off. Tsai said, "We have demonstrated a firm will and resolve to defend ourselves, that we are capable of managing risks with calm and composure and that we have the ability to maintain regional peace and stability."

On Tsai's way back to Taiwan, she is expected to meet with Speaker of the House of Representatives Kevin McCarthy in Los Angeles, making it the first time a Taiwanese leader met with a House Speaker in the United States. China denounced any such meeting and warned that it could result in "serious confrontation" if it goes forward. Moreover, Taiwan Affairs Office and China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs both have



condemned the visit of Taiwanese President. According to China's charge d'affaires Xu Xueyuan, Tsai's transit through the United States might result in a serious dispute between the US and China and have a "severe impact" on bilateral relations between the two countries. As per Xu, "What the United States has done seriously undermines China's sovereignty and territorial integrity," and the US should bear "all consequences" for its actions. Previously, when Nancy Pelosi, the House Speaker at the time, visited Taiwan in August last year, China retaliated by conducting several days of extensive military exercises in the Taiwan Strait, which included firing ballistic missiles. Due to the complicated nature of the conflict between China and US over Taiwan, it is believed that tensions will continue to grow and become more complex in the future.

4- Violent Clashes Break Out At A Protest Over Water In France

On March 25, 2023, a demonstration against the creation of a new water reserve for agricultural irrigation in Sainte-Soline, central-western France, was organised by the collective "Bassines non merci," the environmental movement "Les Soulèvements de la Terre," and the French trade union Confederation paysanne. Clashes broke out during the demonstration. The latest in a string of violent standoffs as social tensions flare up across the country saw French police and protestors brawl once more on Saturday as activists attempted to halt reservoir building in the southwest. After days of violent protests around the country over President Emmanuel Macron's

pension reform, which forced the postponement of a visit by King Charles III of the United Kingdom, violent events broke out in Sainte-Soline in western France.

The worst internal problem of Macron's second term has been the protest movement against the pension reform, which has resulted in daily conflicts between police and protestors in the streets of Paris and other towns. In the skirmishes near Sainte-Soline, demonstrators and security personnel suffered injuries as they attempted to halt the construction of reservoirs for the agricultural sector.

Around 25,000 people, as estimated by the organizers and at least 6,000 by local authorities, participated in the late-morning procession. "We will stand up to safeguard water at the same time the nation rises up to defend pensions," the organizers gathered under the banner of "Bassines non merci" said. Even if they are unrelated to the campaign against pension reform, the disputes over the building of a water reservoir



reservoir have raised tensions in an environment where the administration is facing more and more difficulties. Charles' state visit, which was to be his first overseas as king, was cancelled, which was a big embarrassment for Macron and an admission of the gravity of the issue. The past 24 hours have seen a decrease in protest activity following Thursday night's deadliest skirmishes of the three-month movement. The events in France have shocked people throughout the world. Over a photo of trash building up, the Times of London said, "Chaos reigns in France."



Due to a garbage collectors' strike, the capital's streets are also littered with trash. The Council of Europe has issued a warning that intermittent violence in protests "cannot justify disproportionate use of force," but there has also been disagreement around the strategies employed by the French security forces to disperse the demonstrations.

In a television interview on Wednesday, Macron resolutely refused to make any compromises, stating that the measures must come into force before the end of the year.

5- Food Security And Its Importance In Context Of Pakistan

Food security refers to the availability, accessibility, and affordability of food for all individuals in a given country or region. It is a critical issue for national security, as a lack of access to sufficient and nutritious food can lead to social unrest, political instability, and economic decline. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) defines food security as “a situation that exists when all people, at all times, have physical, social, and economic access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food that meets their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life.

World Health Organization (WHO) defines food security as “a state where all people, at all times, have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.” The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) defines food security as “access by all people at all times to enough food for an active, healthy life.” The International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) defines food security as “the ability of



individuals, households, and communities to acquire adequate and nutritious food on a sustainable basis.” In summary, food security is about ensuring that all individuals or populations have access to enough safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs for an active and healthy life.

In Pakistan, food security is a major concern, as the country has faced numerous challenges related to agriculture, climate change, and economic development. In this article, we will explore the importance of food security for national security in the context of Pakistan and the steps that can be taken to ensure that all citizens have access to adequate nutrition. Pakistan is a country with a large population and a significant proportion of its people living in poverty. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), around 60% of the population in Pakistan is food insecure, meaning that they lack regular access to sufficient food. This is largely due to the country's reliance on agriculture as a source of income and the effects of climate change on crop yields. In addition, economic factors such as inflation and unemployment also play a role in food insecurity in Pakistan.

The importance of food security for national security cannot be overstated. A lack of access to food can lead to malnutrition, which can cause physical and cognitive impairment, especially in children. Malnutrition can lead to a weaker immune system, making individuals more vulnerable to disease, and can lead to increased healthcare

costs. In addition, food insecurity can lead to social unrest, political instability, and economic decline. When people are hungry, they are more likely to engage in criminal activity or become politically radicalized.

To ensure food security in Pakistan, there are several steps that can be taken. First and foremost, investment in agriculture is critical. The government can provide subsidies and other incentives for farmers to increase their crop yields and improve the quality of their crops. This can be done through research and development of new agricultural technologies, such as drought-resistant crops or improved irrigation methods. Additionally, the government can work to improve the infrastructure for transportation and storage of food, which can help reduce waste and improve access to food in remote areas.

Another important factor in food security is social protection programs. These programs, such as cash transfers or food subsidies, can help ensure that vulnerable populations have access to sufficient food. The government can also work to improve education and awareness about nutrition, so that individuals can make informed choices about their diets and improve their overall health.



Finally, addressing climate change is critical for food security in Pakistan. The country is already experiencing the effects of climate change, such as increased temperatures, droughts, and floods, which can have a significant impact on crop yields. By implementing measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the changing climate, the country can help ensure that its citizens have access to sufficient and nutritious food for years to come.

In conclusion, food security is critical for national security in Pakistan. Without adequate access to food, the country risks social unrest, political instability, and economic decline. By investing in agriculture, improving infrastructure, providing social protection programs, and addressing climate change, the government can work to ensure that all citizens have access to sufficient and nutritious food. This will not only improve the health and wellbeing of the population but will also contribute to the overall stability and prosperity of the country.

6- Another Rounding of Severe Weather in the United States

Introduction

In recent years, extreme weather storms have been increasingly common and violent in the United States along with droughts, tornadoes, and other severe weather phenomena. Extreme weather events are likely to become more frequent and more severe in the future due to the consequences of climate change, such as rising temperatures and higher levels of moisture in the atmosphere. In the United States, especially in the central and southern regions of the country, tornadoes, a weather phenomenon which is difficult to predict but occur frequently. The most recent powerful storm system and tornado caused damage to at least eight states and prompted at least 50 early reports of tornadoes. The affected states are Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois, Arkansas, Tennessee, and Mississippi.

Destructive Tornado in Mississippi

At the end of March 2023, a powerful storm swept across the state of Mississippi in the southern United States. It left a trail of destruction that stretched more than 160 km (100 miles) throughout the state, resulted in deaths of more than 25 individuals while leaving dozens of people injured. Mississippi is one of the poorest states, so recovery will be difficult since poverty will make it harder to deal with the effects of current storm.



Biden visited the devastated state of Mississippi, while speaking to the hard-hit Mississippi community of Rolling Fork, President Joe Biden announced that the federal government would pay for the full cost of the state's emergency measures for 30 days in response to the storm on March 24. Moreover, United States President Joe Biden issued a declaration of an emergency for Mississippi in response to the severe storm. According to a White House statement, Biden directed federal assistance to support regional recovery efforts led by state, and local bodies.

Emergency Situation in Other States

On April 5th, 2023, a tornado tore across southeast Missouri, leaving five people dead and extensive damage due to which Joe Biden assured the Missouri government of federal support. Before that, Joe Biden declared on April 2, 2023, that a major disaster designation would be accelerated in order to send aid to Arkansas. He added that the federal organizations are collaborating closely with Indiana and other affected states.

At least 63 people have died as a result of the storms' numerous tornadoes, which mostly occurred in the South and Midwest. According to official sources, residents of the Mid-Atlantic States suffered the largest number of power outages and over 200,000 consumers were without power. Nearly 110,000 people lack access to power in the Great Lakes states of Ohio, Indiana, and Minnesota. As this year's severe storm season starts early, forecasters are keeping a cautious eye on all the weather events. There is still a risk of severe weather that is why the U.S. is preparing to deal with these patterns i.e. tornadoes and strong storms, which are likely to occur on a wide scale in the coming days.

Climate Change and Extreme Weather Patterns

Climate change is causing increasingly frequent and extreme weather events in the modern world. There is growing evidence that warming waters are causing stronger tropical storms than in the past. In addition, as a result of atmospheric instability brought on by warmer temperatures, thunderstorms may occur more frequently and on a greater scale. According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC),



climate change will lead to an increase in frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, including thunderstorms. Many scientists believe that there is a significant connection between the two i.e. extreme weather and climate change but there is no immediate solution for it. However, to lessen the threats of climate-related destruction and relocation, developing and under-developed countries in the Global South urgently require assistance by developed countries. The assistance can be provided in the form of technology transfer, capacity building, technical and financial transfers for climate mitigation and adaption strategies so that these countries can become more resilient to the impacts of climate change. Moreover, a worldwide comprehensive, urgent and collaborative response is required due to the severity and nature of climate change issues and catastrophic weather patterns that are being experienced globally.

7- Heightened Tensions: North Korea's Stern Warning Over US-South Korean Drills

Introduction

On 6th April, 2023, North Korea asserted that joint military exercises by the United States and South Korea have heightened the tensions and brought the Korean Peninsula to the brink of a nuclear war. Additionally, as President Joe Biden's special envoy for North Korea travelled to Seoul for discussions with allies over the North Korea's escalating nuclear threat, Pyongyang warned to take "offensive action" in response to the expansion of United States military drills with South Korea. The Korean Central News Agency (KCNA), state media outlet, denounced the ongoing drills as a source for pushing the situation on the Korean peninsula to the point of explosion.

Background

Last month, South Korea and the United States have conducted their largest joint military exercises (Freedom Shield) in five years, despite Pyongyang's warning that such actions can be regarded as a declaration of war. In response to mounting threats from North Korea, which has recently conducted a number of missile tests in last few months, Washington and Seoul have increased defensive cooperation. The annual springtime exercises



featuring United States nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, B-1B and B-52 bombers, as well as the two countries first significant amphibious landing drills, have been carried out by the United States and South Korean military. The North Korean leader Kim Jong Un's sister issued a warning the day after a B-52 bomber flew over the peninsula on 6th March 2023. She said her nation was prepared to take "quick and overwhelming action" against the United States and South Korea.

But, on April 5th, 2023, for the first time in a month on the peninsula, B52s were also deployed. In response to concerns that North Korea would conduct a nuclear test, the United States sent nuclear-capable B-52 bombers to the Korean Peninsula as a show of force. The Defense Ministry of South Korea confirmed that long-range bombers participated in collaborative aerial exercises. According to Lt. Gen. Park Ha Sik, the commander of the South Korean air force operation command, the drills "show the strong resolve of the South Korea-U.S. alliance and its perfect readiness to respond to any provocation by North Korea swiftly and overwhelmingly."

Joint Submarine Drill by the U.S., South-Korea and Japan

On April 3, 2023, the navies of the three countries i.e. South Korea, the United States and Japan started their first anti-submarine drill in six months in order to improve their coordination against the growing North Korean missile threats. The nuclear-powered USS Nimitz aircraft carrier and naval destroyers from South Korea, the U.S., and Japan participated in maritime drills in international waters off the southern island of Jeju, according to a statement from the South Korean Defense Ministry. The two-day exercises coincide with fears that North Korea may perform its first nuclear test since 2017 following the country's recent display of smaller nuclear warheads.

Military Activities of North Korea

As a response to U.S.-South Korea joint military drills, Pyongyang has decided to increase production of more weapons-grade nuclear material for the expansion of country's arsenal. On March 28, 2023, KCNA published images of the warheads, known as Hwasan-31s, as leader Kim Jong Un visited the Nuclear Weapons Institute. In addition to increasing its military action in recent weeks, North-Korea conducted a record



number of nuclear tests last year. It has not only launched cruise missiles from a submarine but also tested an underwater drone with nuclear weapons capability and displayed new smaller nuclear warheads. It has also launched the Hwasong 17, its longest-range intercontinental ballistic missile. The Hwasong-17, is also called as the "monster missile" of North Korea. State media in North Korea confirmed the ICBM launch and stated that it was done in a response to the "provocative and aggressive" military drills in order to show a tough response posture. It was the one of the major weapons tests that have taken place around Freedom Shield, the massive joint military exercises between the United States and South Korea, which was considered as an invasion drill by Pyongyang. Despite claims to the contrary, the United States and South Korea have emphasized that their drills are defensive in nature.

8- Student Exchange Programs; Economy and Culture

Student exchange programs are not only beneficial for students in terms of educational and cultural experiences, but they also play a vital role in contributing to the economy of the host country. In the western world, student exchange programs have been an integral part of the education system for many years and have contributed significantly to the economy.

Firstly, international students bring a considerable amount of revenue to the host country. These students not only pay tuition fees but also contribute to the local economy by spending on accommodation, transportation, food, and other essential expenses. According to a report by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, international students contributed \$45 billion to the US economy in the academic year 2018-2019



alone. Similarly, in the UK, international students contributed £20.3 billion to the economy in 2019, according to a report by the Higher Education Policy Institute.

Secondly, international students provide a boost to the labor market. Student exchange programs create a demand for various goods and services, leading to the creation of new jobs. These jobs can range Firstly, international students bring a considerable amount of revenue to the host country. These students not only pay tuition fees but also contribute to the local economy by spending on accommodation, transportation, food, and other essential expenses. According to a report by NAFSA: Association of International Educators, international students contributed \$45 billion to the US economy in the academic year 2018-2019 alone. Similarly, in the UK, international students contributed £20.3 billion to the economy in 2019, according to a report by the Higher Education Policy Institute.



From hospitality to transport, providing an opportunity for locals to be employed in different sectors. For instance, international students may require part-time jobs to support themselves while studying, leading to an increase in employment opportunities for locals.

Thirdly, student exchange programs attract foreign investments. International students who study in a host country may develop connections and networks with businesses and entrepreneurs, which can lead to new investment opportunities. International students may also become entrepreneurs themselves and contribute to the economic growth of the host country.

Lastly, student exchange programs can improve the reputation of the host country, leading to more tourism and trade opportunities. International students who study in a host country may develop a positive perception of the country, leading to increased tourism and more trade opportunities. A positive perception of a country can also attract foreign investors, leading to an increase in foreign direct investment.

9- How Artificial Intelligence Can Be Utilized In Diplomacy?

Artificial intelligence (AI) is a rapidly growing field that has the potential to revolutionize many aspects of our society, including diplomacy. Diplomacy is the art and practice of negotiating between nations, and it plays a critical role in maintaining peace and stability around the world. As technology continues to evolve, AI is poised to become an increasingly important tool for diplomats, helping them to analyze complex data, predict outcomes, and make better decisions.

One area where Artificial intelligence is already being used in diplomacy is in the analysis of big data. With the proliferation of digital communication channels, there is an ever-increasing amount of information that diplomats must sift through to gain a clear understanding of the political landscape. AI can help to analyze large volumes of data, identify patterns and trends, and provide insights that might not be immediately apparent to human analysts.

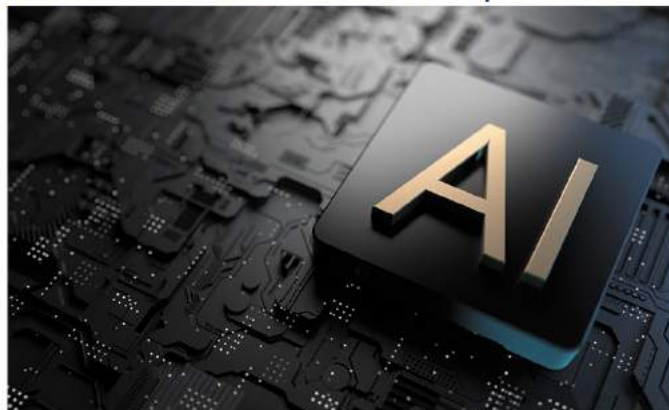


In addition to analyzing data, AI can also be used to predict outcomes. By analyzing historical data and identifying patterns, AI can make predictions about the likelihood of certain events occurring in the future. This can be especially useful in diplomacy, where predicting the actions of other countries is critical to avoiding conflict and maintaining positive relationships.

Another area where AI can be useful in diplomacy is in the development of policy recommendations. Diplomats often have to make decisions based on incomplete or conflicting information, and AI can help to provide a more complete picture of the situation. By analyzing data and identifying patterns, AI can provide diplomats with recommendations on how to proceed that are based on data-driven insights rather than intuition or guesswork.

However, there are also challenges to using AI in diplomacy. One of the biggest challenges is ensuring that the technology is used ethically and responsibly. AI is only as good as the data it is trained on, and if that data is biased or incomplete, it can lead to flawed recommendations. Additionally, there are concerns about the potential for AI to be used to manipulate public opinion or interfere with democratic processes.

Despite these challenges, AI has the potential to be a powerful tool for diplomats. As the technology continues to improve and become more sophisticated, it will be increasingly important for diplomats to understand how to use AI effectively and responsibly. By embracing AI and using it to augment their own expertise, diplomats can make better decisions,



avoid conflicts, and help to build a more stable and peaceful world.

1. Analyzing large amounts of data: AI can process large amounts of data and help diplomats to analyze complex situations. This can help them to identify patterns, make informed decisions, and predict the outcomes of certain events. For example, AI can analyze social media data to identify public sentiment and help diplomats understand how different communities feel about certain issues.

2. Supporting negotiation processes: AI can assist diplomats in the negotiation process by analyzing the language and communication styles of their counterparts. This can help diplomats to understand their counterparts' motivations and goals, and identify areas of agreement or disagreement. AI can also provide suggestions for negotiation strategies based on previous successful negotiations.

3. Monitoring compliances: It can make monitoring easy.

4. Analysis of big data: As mentioned earlier, AI can be used to analyze large volumes of data, including social media data, news articles, and other sources of information that diplomats can use to gain a better understanding of political landscapes. AI can help diplomats identify patterns and trends that they might not be able to see on their own, allowing them to make better-informed decisions.

5. Prediction of outcomes: AI can use historical data to make predictions about future events. This can be particularly useful for diplomats who need to anticipate the actions of other countries. By using AI to make predictions, diplomats can better prepare for potential conflicts.

10- United Nations' Climate Justice Resolution: Outlining Legal Responsibilities around Climate Change

Introduction

On March 29, 2023, at the UN headquarters in New York, the UN General Assembly passed a historic resolution inviting the world's highest court to issue a consultative opinion regarding the obligations nations have to address the climate problem. The adoption of the resolution marks an important step in the fight against climate change because it clarifies what responsibilities nations have under current international law to protect the rights of present and future generations from the negative effects of climate change. Vanuatu, a Pacific island nation was the driving force behind the resolution, which has experienced the effects of climate change and has declared its intention to request an advisory opinion from the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which was adopted by consensus and co-sponsored by more than 130 member countries. The adoption of the resolution came after a week of the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned that global average temperatures could rise by 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels by 2030-2035, which demands serious climate action this decade.

Background

Developing nations and Island nations like Vanuatu, have made the least contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions, but they bear the brunt of unpredictable and extreme weather events like hurricanes, floods, droughts and extreme heat and floods that are impacting water and food security and driving forced migration. Last month, two category 4 hurricanes struck Vanuatu, an archipelago



of islands 500 miles west of Fiji with around 325,000 inhabitants. This resulted not only in the displacement of residents but also extensive damage to infrastructure as well as water and power outages for many days. After a campaign started by a group of students from a Fiji institution in 2019, the Vanuatuan government began advocating for policy measures in 2021. Ishmael Kalsakau, the Prime Minister of Vanuatu appreciated the resolution and said, "Today we have witnessed a win for climate justice of epic proportions." He added, "The historic resolution is the beginning of a new era in multilateral climate cooperation, one that is more fully focused on upholding the rule of international law and an era that places human rights and intergenerational equity at the forefront of climate decision-making."

Significance of Climate Justice and the Role of ICJ

Climate justice is an important component to combat climate change because it emphasizes the disproportionate impact of climate change on the world's most vulnerable communities. It underlines the need of dealing with the root causes of climate change and ensuring that those most impacted have a part in the whole process. Climate justice can contribute in a more equitable and just transition to a sustainable future. The International Court of Justice (ICJ) can play an essential role in achieving climate justice by serving as a legal platform for governments to address climate-related disputes and by providing advisory opinions on the issues.

The United Nations chief Antonio Guterres of the General Assembly while addressing the delegates said, "Advisory opinions of the Court, the principal judicial organ of the United Nations, have tremendous importance and can have a long-standing impact on the international legal order. Advisory opinions can provide much-needed clarification on existing international legal obligations."



Therefore, the resolution for global climate action is crucial as it urges that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) outline nations' legal obligations relating to climate change and global warming. In addition, the resolution calls on that the ICJ issue an advisory opinion on the legal obligations of all the states to address the climate catastrophe, particularly their obligations to decrease emissions, assist vulnerable nations and take steps to protect human rights and nature. Moreover, the role of international organizations and other stakeholders must be considered to develop both global and regional solutions for addressing the climate related crises.

Conclusion

To conclude, the proponents of climate justice resolution believe that it may provide some avenues for enforcing climate regulations. The latest resolution will not only aid in bringing together various stakeholders to deal with the issues of climate change with strengthen collaboration, but it will also support local and international efforts that are aimed at climate justice.

11- The Impact Of Saudi Arab- Iran Relations In The Region

For years, the relationship between Saudi Arabia and Iran has been marked by tension, rivalry, and proxy conflicts. But recent developments suggest that a thaw in relations may be underway, with potentially significant implications for the region. The first signs of a possible rapprochement came in early April 2021, when Saudi Arabia and Iran reportedly held secret talks in Baghdad, mediated by Iraqi Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi. The talks were said to have focused on regional issues and confidence-building measures, and were the first direct talks between the two countries in over four years.

Since then, there have been further signs of a thaw. In June, Iran's President-elect Ebrahim Raisi called for improved relations with Saudi Arabia, saying that Iran

"welcomes the improvement of relations with its neighbors, including Saudi Arabia, based on mutual respect and the preservation of the interests of both countries." In response, Saudi Arabia's foreign minister, Prince Faisal bin Farhan, expressed openness to dialogue with Iran, stating that "We hope that Iran will seize the current opportunity and work with us to achieve peace, stability, and security in the region."



The potential for a rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran is significant for several reasons. First, it could help to reduce tensions and conflicts in the region, which have been fueled by the rivalry between the two countries. This could have a positive impact on conflicts in Yemen, Syria, and Iraq, among others. Second, it could create opportunities for economic cooperation and development in the region. Both countries are major oil producers and have large populations, which could benefit from increased trade and investment. Improved relations could also open up new avenues for tourism and cultural exchange. Third, a thaw in relations between Saudi Arabia and Iran could have implications for the wider geopolitical balance in the region. Currently, the rivalry between Saudi Arabia and Iran has played out in proxy conflicts in several countries, with each side supporting opposing factions. A reduction in tensions could lead to a shift in alliances and a reconfiguration of power dynamics in the region.

Of course, there are also potential risks and challenges to a rapprochement between Saudi Arabia and Iran. The two countries have deeply entrenched ideological and political differences, and there are hardliners on both sides who may resist any attempts at reconciliation. Moreover, there are other regional and international actors who may seek to undermine any progress towards improved relations.

An unexpected occurrence that occurred earlier this month may change the Middle East's security environment. After seven years of acrimonious conflict and a diplomatic lull, long-standing regional rivals Saudi Arabia and Iran decided to mend bilateral ties. Beijing served as a mediator for the accord, which was signed there. The two nations vowed to respect "states' sovereignty" and "non-interference in their internal affairs" in the joint trilateral statement. They also decided to renew their 1998 general cooperation agreement, which covers commerce, the economy, and investment, as well as their security cooperation deal from 2001. The breakthrough came after many days of negotiations in China, which were preceded by two significant high-level visits: Chinese President Xi Jinping's travel to Saudi Arabia in December 2022 and Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi's trip to Beijing in February 2023. These summit-level discussions and regional Saudi-Iranian interactions created the foundation for the March 10 deal.



If the thaw between Saudi Arabia and Iran continues, it could change the course of the entire region. It might pave the path for a more stable and peaceful Middle East because of its broad ramifications for the region and beyond.

By mediating, China has really achieved a significant diplomatic success. It has proven that it is gaining power on a global scale and has solidified its position as a key actor in the Middle East. Unlike the US, China has solid relations with both and is the two nations' largest economic partner, making it an ideal mediator. China buys 40% of its oil from the region, highlighting its stakes in the area.

12- Challenges Domestic Capital Markets Face

Domestic capital markets are a key component of any country's economic infrastructure. They play a vital role in providing funding for businesses and governments, allowing them to finance projects, invest in new technologies, and promote economic growth. However, these markets face a range of challenges that can make it difficult for them to operate effectively.

One of the main challenges facing domestic capital markets is the lack of liquidity. This can make it difficult for investors to buy and sell securities, which can lead to volatility and instability in the market. One of the main reasons for this is the lack of diversity in the types of securities available. Many markets are dominated by a small number of large corporations, which can make it difficult for smaller companies to gain access to funding.

Another challenge facing domestic capital markets is the regulatory environment. In many countries, the regulatory framework for capital markets is complex and constantly changing. This can make it difficult for companies to comply with regulations and can lead to uncertainty in the market. Additionally, regulatory requirements can make it more expensive for companies to access capital, which can limit their ability to grow and invest.

A third challenge is the impact of global economic events. Domestic capital markets are often closely linked to global markets, and events such as recessions or market crashes can have a significant impact on the health of these markets. Additionally, changes in global interest rates or trade policies can have a ripple effect on domestic capital markets.



Finally, there is the challenge of access to information. In order for investors to make informed decisions, they need access to accurate and timely information about the companies and securities they are investing in. However, in many countries, information is not readily available or is difficult to obtain. This can make it difficult for investors to assess the risks and potential returns of different investments.

In conclusion, domestic capital markets face a range of challenges that can make it difficult for them to operate effectively.



These challenges include a lack of liquidity, a complex regulatory environment, the impact of global economic events, and limited access to information. Addressing these challenges will require a collaborative effort between governments, regulators, and market participants, with a focus on creating a more diverse, transparent, and stable capital market ecosystem.

There are several ways in which domestic capital markets can overcome the challenges they face and operate more effectively:

1. Improve market liquidity: One way to improve market liquidity is to increase the diversity of securities available for trading. This can be achieved by encouraging the listing of smaller companies and by providing incentives for investors to invest in these companies.

2. Streamline the regulatory environment: Simplifying and streamlining the regulatory environment can make it easier for companies to access capital and comply with regulations. This can be achieved by creating a single regulator or by harmonizing regulations across different agencies.

3. Encourage Greater Transparency: Greater transparency can help to improve investor confidence and reduce market volatility. This can be achieved by requiring companies to provide more detailed financial information and by making this information more easily accessible to investors.

4. Strengthen Investor Protection: Strengthening investor protection can help to improve investor confidence and reduce the risk of fraud. This can be achieved by enforcing existing laws and regulations more rigorously and by introducing new measures to protect investors.

5. Promote financial education: Financial education can help to improve investor understanding of the risks and benefits of different types of investments. This can be achieved by providing more information and resources to investors, and by promoting financial literacy in schools and universities.

6. Encourage Innovation: Encouraging innovation can help to create new investment opportunities and drive economic growth. This can be achieved by providing incentives for companies to develop new products and services, and by supporting research and development in key areas such as fintech.

In summary, improving market liquidity, streamlining regulations, increasing transparency, strengthening investor protection, promoting financial education, and encouraging innovation are all important ways in which domestic capital markets can overcome the challenges they face and operate more effectively.

13- The UN Water Conference 2023 amid threat of Global Water Crisis

Introduction

The UN Water Conference 2023, which took place from March 22-24 at UN Headquarters in New York co-hosted by Netherlands and Tajikistan, is being hailed as a special opportunity because it is the first of its kind event in almost five decades to speed up the process of achieving universal access to clean water and sanitation by the year 2030. The UN Water Conference has been welcomed as a chance to increase global cooperation to handle water issues, challenges and prevent an impending crisis. The overarching themes of the conference included water for health, sustainable development, cooperation, climate resilience and Water Action Decade in order to strengthen and accelerate action in key areas of water and to address current water-related challenges.

Background

In 1977, Mar del Plata, a city in Argentina, hosted the first UN Water Conference. Over the course of a 12-day meeting, representatives from 118 nations introduced the Mar del Plata Action Plan, in order to attain universal access to clean water and sanitation by 1990 so that a global water crisis can be prevented by the end of the twentieth century. A research on how to finance water projects was suggested when numerous low-income countries requested financial assistance for that reason but were turned down, as reported in Nature article at that time.

The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) were adopted by the UN in September 2000 intended to be achieved by the year 2015. It was determined that actions would be implemented under the MDGs goal 7 i.e. "Ensure Environmental Sustainability" for sustainable access to clean water for drinking and basic sanitation. But, MDGs lacked monitoring, evaluation and multiple concerns, therefore, they were replaced by the SDGs as new international development goals. Under the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2015, the countries set a 2030 aim for ensuring that everyone has access to clean water and sanitation.



Threat of a Global Water Crisis

Water sustains all facets of life on Earth, having access to clean and safe water is a fundamental human right. But decades of poor management and misuse have made water stress worse, endangering many facets of life that depend on this important resource. Water is still inaccessible to billions of people worldwide. It is estimated that each year, over 800,000 people die from illnesses directly linked to contaminated water, poor sanitation and unsafe hygiene habits. According to a report issued at the UN 2023 Water Conference in New York and produced by UNESCO on behalf of UN-Water, 2 billion people worldwide (or 26% of the population) lack access to clean drinking water, and 3.6 billion (or 46% of the population) lack access to properly managed sanitation.



Water is necessary for healthy ecosystems, the production of food and energy, (gender equality and the decrease of poverty as per the SDGs). Since water and climate are closely connected, the effects of climate change on water can be seen and felt at an accelerating rate, including rising floods, heavy rainfalls and droughts.

Both sustainable development and biodiversity are at risk from these effects. According to UNESCO, between two and three billion people go at least one month without access to water per year, which poses serious dangers to their livelihoods, particularly in terms of food security and access to energy. In 2050, the number of urban population who will face water scarcity is expected to double, from 930 million in 2016 to 1.7–2.4 billion. Extreme and protracted droughts are becoming more common, which is stressing ecosystems and having negative effects on both plant and animal species.

Conclusion

People all around the world are being affected by the growing issue of the global water crisis. It concerns both the availability and quality of water. As the demand for water is rising due to population expansion and climate change, therefore, water scarcity is also becoming a more serious issue. Moreover, lack of access to clean drinking water as well as poor sanitation services are contributing to diseases like cholera and diarrhea. Together with deforestation, soil degradation and water logging, poor water management is a contributing factor to the devastation of the ecosystem. To deal with crisis, Governments, corporations, international organizations and individuals must take immediate action in response to the global water crisis to make sure that everyone has sustainable access to clean water. For this matter, collaboration of all the stakeholders at the international level can play a vital role in the formulation, adoption and implementation of water management policies and that is the only way to avoid a global water disaster in the coming decades.

14- A Momentous Summit in Tokyo: Japan and South-Korea Agree to Restore Relations

Introduction

The two leaders, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, met in Tokyo after 12 years for talks that have been hailed as a turning point in their tense relationship. The two countries have decided to put a century of difficult history behind and work together to resolve regional security issues. In an effort to overcome a hard period of history, the Prime Minister of Japan described



During a long-awaited summit, the two countries agreed to resume routine bilateral visits and the security conversation that had been put on hold in 2018 in order to resolve problems, making the summit highly significant. An intelligence-sharing agreement known as General Security of Military Information Agreement.

from which Seoul had threatened to withdraw in 2019, was completely normalized, according to Yoon. A four year trade dispute over several high-tech materials used in semiconductors was also announced to be resolved. Moreover, according to South Korea's trade ministry, Japan will lift restrictions on its exports to South Korea of vital components for smartphone screens and semiconductors in exchange for Seoul dropping its World Trade Organization (WTO) lawsuit against Tokyo.

Background

There are a number of disputes such as territorial issues, economic rivalry, historical resentments i.e. colonial period from 1910 to 1945, have all contributed to the tensions between the two nations. In past years, efforts were being made by Japan and South-Korea to strengthen diplomatic ties, but many issues remained there that kept dividing the two nations which resulted in high level of tensions.

Also, the two nations have been engaged in a contentious dispute regarding forced labor for many years. Yoon has made it obvious that improving relations with Japan is a key goal since his victory last year. Prior to the first formal summit between the two nations, the two leaders previously had side-by-side meetings at multiple diplomatic engagements. A trilateral summit between the leaders of South Korea, Japan and the United States was also conducted in Spain last year on the sidelines of NATO summit.



Japan's Prime Minister Fumio Kishida and South Korea's President Yoon Suk Yeol attend a meeting at the prime minister's official residence in Tokyo, Japan, March 16, 2023. Kiyoshi Ota/Pool via REUTERS

North-Korea's Response to Japan-South Korea Summit

The summit between South-Korea and Japan was coincided with U.S. and South-Korea's military exercises that have previously angered Pyongyang. North Korea has launched several missiles as a response to the drills. Just hours before South Korea's President was scheduled to fly to Japan for the first summit between the two countries in years, with the situation in nuclear-armed North Korea a primary worry, North Korea launched an intercontinental ballistic missile into its eastern waters.



Before the summit Yoon, South-Korea's President said in an interview, "There is an increasing need for Korea and Japan to cooperate in this time of a poly-crisis with North Korean nuclear and missile threats escalating and global supply chains being disrupted."

According to President's office, Yoon held an emergency security meeting on the launch before leaving for Tokyo and gave instructions to the South Korean military to continue its joint training exercises with United States' forces. He asked to conduct the planned joint drills intensively, in order to strengthen security relationship between Seoul, Washington and Tokyo. The President also said that North Korea would pay a clear price for its reckless provocations. The Prime Minister of Japan, however, stated that "We must further strengthen cooperation among the allies and like-minded countries." He opted not to give remarks on what North-Korea could have wanted to accomplish with the launch.

Conclusion

Since the 2022 elections and taking office, Yoon has consistently worked to restore relations with Japan and has referred to Tokyo as a "partner that shares universal principles with South-Korea." Additionally, he stated that trilateral collaboration between South Korea, Japan, and the United States "has become more important than ever to overcome the serious nuclear threats posed by North Korea." The United States has worked to improve relations between South Korea and Japan by mediating issues between the two nations. Because of their strategic importance in the Asia-Pacific region, the United States has an interest in maintaining good relations with South Korea and Japan. The threats from North Korea will continue to hold the trilateral relationship together. The alliance between the South Korea, Japan and the United States will help to deepen and broaden ties as well as advance interests in the Indo-Pacific region.

15- Positive Development in Second Round of Colombia-ELN Rebels Peace Talks

Introduction

During a second round of peace talks held in Mexico City, both the Colombian government and the left-wing National Liberation Army (ELN) rebel group have welcomed the progress in their efforts to put an end to decades of armed conflict in the South American country. President Gustavo Petro is engaging in negotiations with armed group in order to reach a complete ceasefire and peace. The President, Petro is the Colombia's first left-wing leader who is making efforts to bring "total peace" to end six decades of violent conflict that killed almost 450,000 people and devastated the country. The ELN negotiator, Pablo Beltran, said in a statement, "We took the first steps to firm up a bilateral, national and temporary ceasefire which will create better conditions for Colombians' mobilization and participation in the peace process."



The next round of negotiations, which will take place in Cuba, will focus on securing a ceasefire, according to Otty Patino, the leader of the Colombian side. According to a tweet from Cuban President Miguel Diaz, Cuba was honored to accept the request to host the next round of talks with the ELN. Meanwhile, Norway and Mexico, who have facilitated the talks, applauded the latest advancement. Norway's foreign affairs ministry welcomed the talks and said "Congratulations to the Colombian government and the ELN guerilla on substantial progress in the peace talks in Mexico, on key topics like participation, humanitarian relief and future cease fire."

Background

The ELN, was established in 1964 and it is the only largest surviving rebel group in the country. About 2,500 of the ELN's fighters are still active today and the group has been charged with using kidnapping, illegal mining and drug trafficking to support its operations. In 2017, when Juan Manuel Santos served as president of Ecuador, negotiations with the ELN first began. In 2018, they were taken to Cuba.

The talks were halted in 2019 by Ivan Duque, a former President, one day after the group bombed a police academy in Bogota, Colombia, that killed 21 policemen. After three years, the first round of negotiations initiated which took place in Venezuela's capital in November and December 2022.



It was successful and served as a ray of hope in extreme conflict and destabilizing tensions as two sides reached a four points agreement.

The violence in the Colombian districts of Choco and Valle del Cauca and the requirement for immediate assistance were highlighted by the two sides in the joint statement. Additionally, there were continued demands for the measures to improve circumstances for prisoners and for the return of indigenous communities i.e. members of the ELN, therefore a partial agreement was announced.

Petro's "Total Peace" Plan in Colombia

Total Peace is a policy that seeks to end the nation's long-standing armed conflict through talks with various armed groups, including the ELN and FARC, which pose the greatest threats to the Colombian government. Since taking office in August 2022, it has remained one of Gustavo Petro's main priority on political agenda, he wanted to initiate the 2016 FARC peace agreement's implementation and talks with the ELN and other armed organizations. For achieving "Total Peace" the Petro administration asserted that it will concentrate its strategy on protecting civilians while first attempting to negotiate humanitarian treaties with armed groups.

Furthermore, Petro said he would give up the militarized and hardline strategy which is considered as a source of exacerbated conflict and violence in the country by human rights organizations. He has attempted to normalize relations with neighboring country Venezuela as a part of his efforts to strengthen trade ties and deal with border region unrest.

Conclusion

After the first round of peace negotiations between Colombia and ELN, divergent statements emerged as a result, which were held in the Venezuelan capital of Caracas at the end of the previous year. The ELN denied accepting any such deal, stating a ceasefire "was merely a proposal to be considered" as the Colombian government reported a truce had been achieved. Now, there is a hope for peace at the end of the second round of talks as the two sides have already reached an informal ceasefire.

16- Anti-Inflation Plan: Mexico and Latin American Allies Unite Against Inflation

Introduction

Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador, the President of Mexico, has declared intentions to conduct cooperative anti-inflationary measures with other Latin American governments. To tackle product shortages and keep prices low in the face of rising inflation, the alliance aims to boost economic trade and deal with tariffs. President Lopez Obrador said during the news conference, "We are going to carry out a mutually beneficial anti-inflation plan for growth and for economic and commercial exchange with the countries of Latin America." He added "There will be a teleconference between the presidents on April 5 and then an in-person meeting to discuss the plan." The statement by Mexican President came after the phone call with President of Brazil Lula da Silva, Colombian President Gustavo Petro, President of Argentina Alberto Fernandez and Cuban President Miguel Diaz Canel.

Background

Many people in the region have been experiencing economic difficulty due to Latin America's severe inflation crisis. The region has suffered significant inflation over the past few decades, where different countries are experiencing inflation at higher rates. A number of factors have contributed to this, including structural problems including unsound economic policies,



rising global commodity prices and significant budget deficits. Latin American officials have used a variety of policies, including price controls and fiscal and monetary policies to fight inflation and encourage economic growth. In an annual report, Preliminary Overview of the Economy of Latin America and the Caribbean, ECLAC estimated that the region's growth rate for the following year would be a third of that predicted for 2022. Despite regional limitations and global worries, the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean will expand by 3.7% in 2022, just over half of the 6.7% rate recorded in 2021. Economic growth is expected to slow down even more in 2023, reaching a ratio of 1.3%.

Latin America's Inflationary Landscape and the New Anti-Inflation Plan

For Latin America as a whole, 2023 is probably going to be a tough year. Growth will only reach 2% this year, according to IMF forecasts, as a result of rising interest rates and falling commodity prices. Consumer and corporate confidence are declining along with a slowdown in employment creation and consumer spending on goods and services. Growth will also be constrained with trading partners, particularly with the United State and the Europe. However, there are still a lot of downside risks,

brought on by financial conditions and Russia-Ukraine war. Climate change is another factor, according to a Moody's Analytics estimate, the effects of climate change might cost Latin America 16% of GDP this century if new policies are not put in place for mitigation. After a projected 3.3% increase in GDP in 2022, it is anticipated that regional GDP will grow by only 1.5% in 2023.



Negative external conditions and monetary tightening intended to combat excessive inflation will be the main causes of the slowdown. The anti-inflation plan, according to the president of Mexico will be apply gradually at first before being extended to include neighboring nations like Bolivia, Chile and Honduras. This plan will be implemented by inviting wholesalers, merchants, importers and other people will be called who deal in and understand food, can set pricing and eliminate obstacles like tariffs that make it challenging to purchase it at a fair price.

Conclusion

As inflation remains a major challenge in the region, continued efforts are required to ensure long-term economic stability. Due to the current development in regional integration, it is important that all the countries work together to formulate and implement shared policies and strategies to lower inflation. Governments of Latin American countries should increase support through carefully targeted strategies to mitigate the effects of inflation on the poor, i.e. by implementing supply-side policies.

which increase productivity. Furthermore, to boost economic activity in the region and to satisfy social concerns, it is important to take steps that can generate employment opportunities which will contribute in reducing inequality and poverty. Moreover, innovative governmental policies on productive, financial, trade and social issues are required not only to deal with inflation, but also for overall economic growth and long-term socio-economic stability in the region.

17- Impacts of Historic Drought in Argentina and other Parts of South-America

Introduction

According to the definition of World Health Organization (WHO), "Drought is a prolonged dry period in the natural climate cycle that can occur anywhere in the world. It is a slow-onset disaster characterized by the lack of precipitation, resulting in a water shortage. Drought can have a serious impact on health, agriculture, economies, energy and the environment." In many parts of South America, especially in the arid and semi-arid regions, drought has become a serious issue. Due to the severe consequences of drought, there are major threats to economy, the environment, and human health. The factors, such as altered climatic patterns, rising water demand and excessive use of water resources are all contributing in occurrence of the drought. As a result of more intense weather patterns because of climate change, some regions are experiencing persistent drought situation. Additionally, as a result of huge demand, there is a greater need for water, which causes resources to be used excessively. Devastating effects of the drought in South America include health-related issues, soil erosion, decreased crop yields and a higher risk of wildfires.



Crippling Effects of Drought in Argentina

In Argentina, drought has become a common issue. Argentina has been hit by multiple severe droughts over the past few years, which have caused considerable crop losses and water shortages. With less than half the typical amount of precipitation falling in the last four months of 2022, the lowest rainfall in 35 years. In recent years, large portions of Argentina and its neighbors have been suffering from drought conditions since 2019. Argentina is one of the top exporters of wheat globally, but the exports of agricultural goods from the country are predicted to fall by additional 28% in 2023 as compared to the 2022 figures. Argentina is an important country in the global food market.

But, according to the National Drought Monitoring Board, in just Argentina, the drought in October 2022 threatened 3.5 million hectares of crops and more than 18.5 million livestock. In year 2021–2022, wheat production in Argentina was recorded at 22 million tons. However, production is predicted to drop to almost half of this level by 2023, resulting in \$10 billion losses in production of corn, wheat, and soybean as well as a two points reduction of the country's GDP this year. Moreover, other countries of South-America are also struggling due to drought, in October 2022, Uruguay also declared an agricultural emergency because 60% of the country's land was affected by drought. As per official estimates Uruguay's farming industries will lose \$1.1 billion in revenue as a result of the drought, adding to Argentina's possible \$15 billion losses in agricultural exports.

In addition to climate change, the La Nina weather pattern, during which stronger than usual winds sweep warm water away from the South American zone of the Pacific, is thought to be the cause of the drought conditions by experts. The drought and prolonged dry spells have not only rattled the agriculture sector of South-American countries but also



shaken up the energy markets and water shortages. Water levels of the Paraná River, South America's second-longest river, have dropped to their lowest point in almost 80 years, posing a threat to freshwater supplies for about 40 million people in Argentina, Brazil, and Paraguay as well as hydropower generation and food imports through river. In July 2021, the Argentinean government declared the water emergency in context of Parana basin.

Conclusion

According to WHO estimates, droughts affect 55 million people worldwide each year and pose the greatest threat to livestock and crops in almost every region of the world. The livelihoods of people are in danger, risk of diseases has also raised and mass migration is sparked by drought. Almost 40% of the world's population suffers from water scarcity and by 2030, 700 million people could be at risk of being relocated due to drought.

Governments in South America have put in place a number of measures to lessen the effects of drought by spending money on water management and conservation as well as on innovative farming techniques. Governments have also taken steps to lower emissions and improve air quality, both of which can help to lessen the effects of drought. But still a comprehensive strategy is needed to be solved the complicated issues of drought that can lessen the effects while safeguarding the environment and people's health through effective regulations and policies.

18- The Wrath of Wildfires in Cuba's Eastern Region

Introduction

Since the start of the year 2023, a large number of forest fires have affected Cuba, an estimated 80 wildfires have been reported from January to March as per statistics and local authorities. On 19th February, 2023, the flames of disaster initiated from Holguin and intensified because of ongoing strong wind and drought conditions on the island. The most recent fire destroyed over 6,000 hectares of forest in the eastern region as fire had not a single focus point and was spread over a large area,

therefore, the Cuban President said that the situation will be monitored by himself. It took more than two weeks to curb the spread of fire on 8th March, 2023, which was announced by Diaz-Canel, the President of Cuba. Using a social media platform, he announced "the spread of the forest fire in the territory of Santiago de Cuba has been stopped."



Background

The Mensura-Piloto National Park in Cuba, which covers 6,046 hectares, which is also renowned for its forested mountains and flowing waterfalls, had previously been endangered by the fires. The latest large scale forest fires that was observed on the island's east coast for more than two weeks was managed by Cuban firefighters, planes and Defense Force helicopters. Cuban President appreciated the efforts of firefighters and considered it as a "heroic fight." Diaz-Canel said, "the courage and sacrifice of the firefighters, forest guardians and residents who face the fires devouring the beautiful and valuable forests of the eastern region in Pinares de Mayarí is great."

Impacts of Wildfires on Economy

In the mountains of Pinares de Mayari, a pine forest region, in the province of Holguin of Cuba, the wildfire severely damaged forest plantations and coffee crops while causing serious damage. It is being said that the devastation caused by forest fires in Cuba could take several years to recover. The country is experiencing one crisis after another, COVID-19 pandemic has caused a sharp fall in the country's tourism industry, one of its primary sources of income, resulting in the biggest economic crisis in the decades. The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) dropped by 11% in 2020 alone. Additionally, the country's economy struggled a lot due to the sanctions imposed by the U.S. in Donald Trump's era. Trump used maximum pressure on Cuba and also abandoned the measures taken by his predecessor, Barack Obama, to ease relations between the two countries.

However, last year in 2022, Biden administration made few relaxations in Trump era sanctions on Cuba. The country's fragile economy is still enduring hardships, the current economic distress in Cuba has exacerbated the situation in the form of the worst migration crises in its history, as well as shortages of food and other essentials. Wildfires have become a serious issue in recent years due to the devastating economic, ecological and social effects they can have on communities.

The consequences can be particularly severe for communities that rely heavily on tourism. Wildfires can have a devastating economic impact as the cost of fighting and suppressing forest fires is enormous. On the other side, the costs of evacuating people from the area, lost wages and business revenues, and the cost of rebuilding homes and businesses all have an indirect impact on the economy.



Conclusion

The wildfire is one of the most destructive and devastating natural disasters. The number of wildfires has increased in recent years as a result of climate change, human activity, and natural causes. As a result, it is critical to develop methods to reduce the risk of wildfires and mitigate their effects. The forest fires are becoming more frequent and intense as a result of climate change. This means that more areas are vulnerable to wildfires and the intensity of the fires is increasing, resulting in more destruction and loss of life and economic losses. To address this, governments and communities must collaborate to build more resilient landscapes for better managing existing fire risks through fuel reduction and other fire management strategies. Furthermore, it is the great time to adopt the policies for the mitigation and adaptation of climate change. Moreover, the governments of the countries that are more prone to forest fires should work together to foster a culture of fire safety by developing evacuation plans and educating residents about wildfire risks. Finally, investing in research and technology to improve early warning systems and firefighting capabilities is critical for all the stakeholders to be better prepared to respond to wildfires.

19- Twelve Years To The Protracted War In Syria

15th March, 23, marks the 12 years to the protracted war in Syria. Syrian protestors first dared to come to the streets to express their frustration with the government and president, Bashar al-Assad, twelve years ago. The demonstrations swiftly evolved into a revolution, calling for the “fall of the dictatorship,” but as the government responded violently, the uprising turned into a war, enlisting the help of many foreign countries, uprooting millions of people, and killing hundreds of thousands. According to the World Food Programme, Syria’s economy has worsened, and 90% of the country’s people are now living below the poverty line. More than 306,000 people have been murdered in the nation since March 2011 according to UN estimates, or around 1.5% of the total population. An estimated 610,000 people have died in total, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, a war monitoring organization. The UN had estimated that 14.6 million Syrians needed humanitarian

help before the earthquakes that wreaked havoc on northwest Syria in February, with 6.9 million people internally displaced and more than 5.4 million Syrian refugees residing in neighbouring countries. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands applied for refuge in Germany and other countries throughout the EU.



Effects of the Prolonged Conflict in a Region:

The war in Syria, which began in 2011, has resulted in a humanitarian crisis that has left millions of people displaced and devastated the country’s infrastructure. The prolonged war has had far-reaching effects on Syria and its people, with many experts warning that the consequences of the conflict could be felt for generations.

One of the most significant effects of the war in Syria has been the displacement of millions of people. According to the United Nations, more than 13 million Syrians have been displaced since the conflict began. This has led to a massive refugee crisis, with many Syrians fleeing the country to seek refuge in neighboring countries and beyond. The displacement of so many people has had a profound impact on Syria’s social fabric, with communities being uprooted and families being separated. The war in Syria has also had a devastating impact on the country’s infrastructure. Hospitals, schools, and other essential facilities have been destroyed, leaving many Syrians without access to basic services. The destruction of infrastructure has also made it challenging for humanitarian organizations to provide aid to those in need, exacerbating the already dire situation.

Another significant effect of the war in Syria has been the loss of life. According to the United Nations, over 400,000 people have been killed since the conflict began. The loss of so many lives has had a profound impact on Syrian society, with families being torn apart and communities being decimated. The long-term effects of this loss of life are difficult to quantify, but it is clear that the impact will be felt for generations. The war in Syria has also had a significant economic impact. The conflict has disrupted and commerce, resulting in a decline in economic activity.

The destruction of infrastructure has also made it challenging for businesses to operate, further exacerbating the economic situation. The decline in economic activity has led to high unemployment rates and increased poverty, further compounding the humanitarian crisis.



Finally, the war in Syria has had an impact on regional stability. The conflict has spilled over into neighboring countries, with many Syrians seeking refuge in Turkey, Lebanon, and Jordan. The influx of refugees has put a strain on these countries' resources and has led to social tensions. The conflict has also created opportunities for extremist groups to gain a foothold in the region, further destabilizing the area. In conclusion, the war in Syria has had far-reaching effects on the country and its people. The displacement of millions of people, the destruction of infrastructure, the loss of life, the economic impact, and the impact on regional stability are just some of the consequences of this prolonged conflict. It is clear that the effects of the war in Syria will be felt for generations, and the international community must continue to work towards a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

20- Prolonged Political Conflicts And Its Adverse Effects

Protracted political conflicts are a common occurrence in many countries around the world. These conflicts arise when different groups or individuals have differing opinions on how the country should be run, or how resources should be distributed. These conflicts can lead to a range of negative effects on the country, from economic and social instability to violence and war. Let us explore the effects of protracted political conflicts on the country, and why it is essential to find a solution to these conflicts.

One of the most significant effects of protracted political conflicts is economic instability. When there is political unrest, investors tend to shy away from investing in the country.

This lack of investment can lead to a decrease in economic growth and development, as well as a decline in the standard of living for citizens. Additionally, the lack of economic opportunities can lead to an increase in poverty, which can lead to further unrest and conflict. Another effect of protracted political conflicts is social instability. When there is conflict between different groups, it can lead to a breakdown in social cohesion, as people begin to identify more with their group identity than with their identity as citizens of the country. This can lead to an increase in discrimination, xenophobia, and even violence. Moreover, people tend to lose their trust in the government and other institutions, leading to further social instability. Protracted political conflicts can also lead to violence and war. When conflicts between groups are not resolved through peaceful means, they can escalate into violence, and in extreme cases, even civil war.



This can have devastating effects on the country, including loss of life, destruction of infrastructure, displacement of people, and a breakdown in the rule of law. Even when conflicts are not violent, they can still lead to a sense of mistrust and bitterness between groups, which can have long-lasting effects on the country's social fabric. Protracted political conflicts can have a range of negative Political conflicts are a common occurrence in many countries, and in some cases, they can become protracted, lasting for extended periods of time. Protracted political conflicts are those that continue for years, if not decades, and are characterized by deep-seated differences and intractable positions held by the parties involved.



Such conflicts can have far-reaching effects on the country, including social, economic, and political implications. One of the primary effects of protracted political conflicts is the erosion of social cohesion and trust. When conflicts persist for long periods, they tend to polarize societies, with each side becoming increasingly

entrenched in their positions. As a result, people tend to identify more with their political affiliations than with their common nationality, religion, or ethnicity. This can lead to a breakdown in social cohesion, as people become more distrustful and intolerant of those with different views.

Protracted political conflicts also have significant economic consequences. Such conflicts often result in instability, uncertainty, and a lack of investment, which can harm the country's economy.

Businesses and investors are hesitant to put money into a country that is characterized by conflict, as they fear their investments will be lost. This can lead to a decline in economic activity, job losses, and a reduction in the standard of living for the people. Another effect of protracted political conflicts is the erosion of democratic institutions and values. In countries where conflicts persist for long periods, it is common for political leaders to use authoritarian tactics to maintain power. This can lead to a decline in the rule of law, the suppression of free speech, and the curtailing of civil liberties. Over time, such actions can undermine the foundations of democracy and lead to a culture of fear and repression. Furthermore, protracted political conflicts can result in a loss of life and displacement of people. In some cases, conflicts can escalate into full-blown wars, leading to significant loss of life and the destruction of infrastructure. Even in cases where conflicts do not turn violent, they can still result in the displacement of people from their homes, causing significant hardship and suffering.

In conclusion, protracted political conflicts can have devastating effects on a country. They can erode social cohesion, harm the economy, undermine democratic institutions, and lead to loss of life and displacement of people. Therefore, it is essential for political leaders to work towards resolving conflicts quickly and peacefully, to prevent them from becoming protracted and causing long-term harm to the country and its people.

21- Pakistan: Rise Of Terrorism Due To The Porous Border And Regional Instability

The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan in 2020 has caused a great deal of concern among the international community, particularly with regards to the potential for a rise in terrorism in neighboring Pakistan. The Taliban's history of support for extremist groups and the presence of numerous Pakistan-based militant organizations provide cause for alarm. As such, it is important to consider the implications of the Taliban's takeover for Pakistan's security and stability. The most immediate concern is that the Taliban could provide a safe haven for extremist groups in Afghanistan, allowing them to operate and train more freely than before. This could lead to an influx of terrorists into Pakistan, as well as increased support for existing militant organizations. Moreover, a Taliban-controlled Afghanistan could provide a more attractive base of operations for those seeking to carry out terrorist attacks in Pakistan. The Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan could also lead to increased financial and material support for extremist groups in Pakistan, including through the provision of weapons and ammunition. In addition, the Taliban's victory in Afghanistan could embolden militant groups in Pakistan, leading to an increase in terrorist activity.

The Taliban's takeover could also create a more permissive environment for extremist ideologies in Pakistan, leading to an increase in radicalization and recruitment. Furthermore, the Taliban's victory could provide a morale boost to militant groups in Pakistan, further intensifying the threat of terrorism. Finally, the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan could have a destabilizing effect on Pakistan's security situation. One of the recent attacks in Peshawar on a Mosque, that too in Police lines is a proof that terrorism has a chance to rise again in Pakistan after destabilization in Afghanistan.

The Pakistani government is already facing a number of internal security threats, including from Baloch separatists, and a Taliban-controlled Afghanistan could further exacerbate these problems. Additionally, a Taliban-controlled Afghanistan could lead to increased regional tensions, as regional actors seek to protect their interests in the region.



Pakistan has suffered greatly from the threat of terrorism due to its porous borders. The porous borders have allowed terrorists to move freely between countries and use Pakistan as a base for their activities. To overcome this threat, the Pakistani government needs to take a comprehensive and holistic approach to tackling the problem. The first step is to strengthen the security and surveillance of its borders. This includes increasing the number of border patrols, installing surveillance technology, and improving border infrastructure. In addition, the government should work with neighboring countries to ensure that there is better coordination and communication between the two countries to prevent terrorists from crossing the border.



The second step is to improve the intelligence gathering capabilities of the security forces. This includes the creation of a unified intelligence system that can track and monitor potential terrorist activities. Additionally, the government should invest in training and equipping its security forces to better detect and respond to terrorist threats.

The third step is to strengthen the legal and judicial system. This includes the implementation of strict anti-terrorism laws and the prosecution of those involved in terrorist activities. Additionally, the government should work with international partners to ensure that suspected terrorists are brought to justice. Finally, the government should take steps to strengthen social cohesion and reduce radicalization of the population.

This includes providing economic opportunities for the youth, investing in education and increasing access to mental health services. Additionally, the government should work to ensure that all citizens receive equal rights and respect. By taking these steps, the government of Pakistan can significantly reduce the threat of terrorism and make its borders more secure.

In conclusion, the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan could lead to a rise in terrorism in neighboring Pakistan, as well as greater regional instability. It is therefore essential that the international community takes steps to mitigate the potential risks posed by the Taliban's victory, including through increased support for counter-terrorism efforts in Pakistan and diplomatic efforts to reduce regional tensions.

22- Importance Of Disaster Risk Management And Mitigation In 21st Century

Disaster risk management and mitigation is a process used to identify, assess and reduce the potential impacts of a disaster on a community or organization. This process involves analyzing the potential risks associated with a disaster, developing plans to reduce the potential impacts of the disaster, and implementing those plans. The process of disaster risk management and mitigation begins with the identification of potential risks associated with a disaster. This includes analyzing the physical risks of the disaster, such as the potential for flooding, landslides, or other natural disasters. It also includes looking at the social risks associated with the disaster, such as the potential for displacement or loss of livelihoods. After the risks have been identified, the next step is to assess the potential impacts of the disaster.



This involves looking at the potential economic, social, and environmental impacts of the disaster. Once the potential risks and impacts of the disaster have been identified and assessed, the next step is to develop plans to reduce the potential impacts of the disaster. This can include developing evacuation plans, strengthening existing infrastructure, or creating

emergency response plans. In addition, the plans should include measures to reduce the potential risks of the disaster, such as early warning systems, community preparedness programs, or disaster risk reduction programs. Once the plans have been developed, the next step is to implement them. . This includes ensuring that all stakeholders are aware of the plans and have access to the necessary resources to implement them.

In addition, it includes monitoring the implementation of the plans and making necessary adjustments as needed. Disaster risk management and mitigation is an important process for any community or organization. It can help to reduce the potential impacts of a disaster, as well as reduce the potential risks associated with it. By taking the time to identify, assess, and reduce the potential risks and impacts of a disaster, communities and organizations can help to ensure that they are prepared for any potential disasters that may occur.

As the world continues to face an ever-increasing number of natural disasters, the importance of disaster risk management and mitigation in the 21st century cannot be overstated. Whether it is a hurricane, an earthquake, a flood, or a wildfire, disasters can cause extensive damage to infrastructure, property, and human life. As such, it is essential for governments, businesses, and individuals to take steps to reduce the potential impacts of disasters. Disaster Risk Management Disaster risk management (DRM) is the process of assessing, understanding, and reducing the risks posed by natural disasters. This includes identifying the potential hazards, assessing their likelihood of occurrence, and developing strategies to mitigate their impacts. The process also includes developing disaster management plans and creating awareness among the public about disaster preparedness and response.

Mitigation is the process of reducing the likelihood and severity of disasters by taking measures to prevent, limit, or reduce the impacts of natural disasters. This includes engineering solutions such as constructing seawalls to protect against storm surge, strengthening buildings to resist earthquakes, and creating early warning systems to inform the public of approaching hazards.



Mitigation also includes non-structural measures such as public awareness campaigns, evacuation plans, and disaster insurance. Benefits of Disaster Risk Management and Mitigation Disaster risk management and mitigation can help reduce the impacts of disasters and save lives. By taking the necessary steps to reduce the potential impacts of disasters, governments, businesses, and individuals can save money that would otherwise be spent on emergency response and recovery. Furthermore, with effective DRM and mitigation measures in place, the public can be better prepared to respond to disasters and recover more quickly.

The importance of disaster risk management and mitigation in the 21st century cannot be overstated. By taking the necessary steps to reduce the potential impacts of disasters, governments, businesses, and individuals can save money, save lives, and increase the public's preparedness for disasters.



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