



IPRI
Building Consensus



**Islamabad Policy
Research Institute**



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FOREIGN DELEGATION

CICIR Delegation Visits IPRI

A delegation from China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations (CICIR), China visited Pakistan from March 17, 2015 to March 23, 2015 on the invitation of IPRI. The delegation was led by Prof. Ji Zhiye, President, CICIR and comprised Dr. Hu Shisheng Director,



Institute for South & Southeast Asian and Oceania Studies, Ms. Li Xin and Mr. Li Wei. During their stay in Pakistan, the delegation held in-depth discussion with IPRI scholars on Pak-China relations, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the evolving situation in Afghanistan and Pakistan-India relations. A visit of the delegation to Karachi was also arranged where they held meetings with the Pakistani business community.

Salient points made by the CICIR delegation during their interaction with IPRI scholars are as follow:

Highlights

- **One-day Conference**
Pakistan's Relations with European Union (EU)
- **Guest Lecture**
Pakistan-Africa Relations: Potential and Challenges
- **Review Meeting**
18th Amendment: Rhetoric versus Reality

- Cooperation between Pakistan and China had evolved over the years from trade sector to finance and direct investment in each other's country. China was keen in infrastructure development particularly the industrial infrastructure development.
- Prof Zhiye, the head of the delegation said that the momentum had been set for economic cooperation between the two countries.
- The heavy Chinese investment in energy sector laid a solid foundation of economic and long term cooperation between Pakistan and China.

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ONE-DAY CONFERENCE

Pakistan's Relations with European Union (EU)

Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) organized a one-day conference on "Pakistan's Relations with European Union (EU)" on March 5, 2015 at Marriot Hotel, Islamabad. The conference comprised one working session in addition to inaugural and concluding sessions. Four presentations were made by eminent scholars: i) "Pakistan-EU Strategic Relations: Challenges and Prospects" by Ambassador (R) Munawar Saeed Bhatti, former Ambassador of Pakistan to Belgium and the European Commission,



ii) "Pakistan-EU Trade Relations and Impact of GSP plus Status on Pakistan" by Prof. Dr. Naheed Zia Khan, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi, iii)



"Pakistan-NATO Relations" by Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Director, School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR), QAU, Islamabad and iv) "Private Sector's Point of View on Pakistan-EU Relations" by Dr. Kamal Monoo, Member, Board of Governors (BOGs), IPRI.

In his welcome address, Ambassador (R) Sohail Amin, President IPRI, greeted the chief guest H.E Lars-Gunnar WIGEMARK, Ambassador of the European Union (EU) Delegation to Pakistan,
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English Newspaper Articles

- “National counter-terrorism narrative” by Muhammad Munir, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 1, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/01/comments-2.php>
- “Evolving opportunities for Pakistan-India relations” by Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal, Non Resident Consultant IPRI was published in *The Nation*, March 2, 2015, <http://nation.com.pk/columns/02-Mar-2015/evolving-opportunities-for-pakistan-india-relations>
- “Libyan turmoil and rise of IS” by Khurram Abbas, Assistant Research Officer IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 3, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/03/comments-2.php>
- “New challenges to nuclear diplomacy” by Khurram Abbas, Assistant Research Officer IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 8, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/08/comments-2.php>
- “India Pakistan talks” by Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal, Non Resident Consultant IPRI was published in *The Nation*, March 9, 2015, <http://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2015-03-09/page-7>
- “Political Turmoil in Bangladesh” by Aymen Ijaz, Assistant Documentation Officer IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 14, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/14/comments-1.php>
- “Intra Afghan Talks” by Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal, Non Resident Consultant IPRI was published in *The Nation*, March 16, 2015, <http://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2015-03-16/page-7>
- “Hindutva and deprived Indian minorities” by Muhammad Nawaz Khan, Assistant Research Officer IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 22, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/22/comments-2.php>
- “Inevitability of nuclear electricity generation” by Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal, Non Resident Consultant IPRI was published in *The Nation*, March 23, 2015, <http://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2015-03-23/page-7>
- “Light at end of the tunnel” by Col (R) Muhammad Hanif, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 29, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/29/comments-2.php>
- “Terrorist fail to divide us” by Amna Ejaz Rafi, Assistant Research Officer IPRI was published in *Pakistan Observer*, March 29, 2015, <http://epaper.pakobserver.net/201503/29/comments-2.php>
- “Education and Terrorism” by Aymen Ijaz, Assistant Documentation Officer IPRI was published in *The London Post*, March 29, 2015, <http://thelondonpost.net/education-and-terrorism/>
- “Back on our feet?” by Air Cdr (R) Khalid Iqbal, Non Resident Consultant IPRI was published in *The Nation*, March 29, 2015, <http://nation.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2015-03-30/page-7>

IPRI Scholars' Urdu Newspaper Articles (March 2015)

- “Modi Mufti Sarkar Aur Muslim Nasal Kushi” by Asghar Ali Shad, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Nawa-i-Waqt*, February 22, 2015, <http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2015-03-01/page-14>
- “Bharti Essaion Ki Halat-e-Zaar” by Asghar Ali Shad, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Daily Pakistan*, March 1, 2015, <http://dailypakistan.pk/newsarchive.php?search=08/03/2015>
- “Khwateen Bay Hurmati, BBC Aur Bharat” by Asghar Ali Shad, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Nawa-i-Waqt*, March 8, 2015, <http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/islamabad/2015-03-09/page-14>
- “Aman Ki Zamanat...Pakistani Atomi Program” by Asghar Ali Shad, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Daily Azkaar*, March 24, 2015, <http://azkaar.com.pk/dailyazkaar.php?start=12&year=2015&month=3&Day=27>
- “Janubi Asia, Atomi Hathyar...Zimadar Kon?” by Asghar Ali Shad, Research Fellow IPRI was published in *Nawa-i-Waqt*, March 28, 2015, <http://www.nawaiwaqt.com.pk/E-Paper/lahore/2015-03-30/page-14>

10th SCO Forum

President IPRI, Ambassador (R) Sohail Amin attended the 10th Session of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Forum held in Khanty Mansiysk, Russia from March 10-12, 2015. This is an annual event held in one of the SCO's member states to which representatives of think tanks of all the member and Observer states and dialogue partners are invited to attend to prepare for the upcoming SCO Summit. This year's SCO Summit will be held in July 2015 in Russia.

The inaugural session of the Forum was attended by the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia, Secretary General of the SCO, the Governor of Khanty Mansiysk, Rector of MGIMO-University of the Ministry of Foreign

Affairs and several other Russian dignitaries and scholars. From abroad, Heads of think tanks of Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, India, China, Afghanistan, Mongolia, Belarus and Turkey attended the Forum.

President IPRI in his statement said that the SCO was focussing on cooperation in economic, trade, finance and on developing interconnectivity between member states. The member states also wanted to see the elimination of terrorism and extremism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs. Because of the agenda SCO has set for itself, it was one of the most valuable instrument for promoting economic development, peace and stability in the region. The priorities of SCO clearly suggest that its agenda was in sync with the priorities of Pakistan. Pakistan is, therefore,

desirous of playing a greater role in the SCO by attaining its full membership.

President IPRI said that during the SCO Summit in Dushanbe held in 2014, the procedure for granting the status of the SCO member state and the memorandum of obligations of a candidate country for obtaining the status of SCO member state were adopted. These documents would promote geographical expansion of the SCO and Pakistan looked forward to attending the XI SCO Forum as a full member of the SCO. Pakistan's membership would be of great importance for the country itself, the SCO and the region at large. It would offer further opportunities to work thoroughly on building peace and stability and eliminating terrorism in the region.

REVIEW MEETING

18th Amendment: Rhetoric versus Reality

Ms. Asiya Mahar, Assistant Research Officer, IPRI gave a presentation on "18th Amendment: Rhetoric versus Reality" on March 12, 2015 at IPRI Conference Hall.



Ms. Asiya highlighted the main features of the 18th Amendment, its challenges and weaknesses, and offered recommendations for its implementation. The 18th Amendment became an Act of Parliament on April 19, 2010. It includes 102 amendments to various sections of the Constitution including the deletion of the Concurrent Legislative List and the addition of some subjects to Part II of the Federal Legislative List. She said that the Government constituted an 18th Amendment Implementation Commission on May 4, 2010. During 2010-11, the Commission finalized a detailed roadmap for devolution of 34 federal ministries and divisions. It was done in three phases resulting in the devolution of 17 Ministries.

Ms. Asiya pointed out the following challenges that surfaced during the devolution exercise:

- Provincial readiness to cope with changes was inadequate.
- The reallocation of human resources is also problematic.
- The federal government created eight new ministries and divisions in less than nine months after the abolition of devolved ministries.
- The future of 61,231 federal government employees who have been moved from the federal to provincial domain on deputation remains undecided.
- The Implementation Commission identified 232 projects under Ministries that were to be devolved. Of these, only 166 have been transferred to the provinces.
- Article 164 demands that the Council of Common Interests meets once every 90 days and the National Economic Council twice a year but regrettably these meetings were not being convened as per schedule.
- The devolution of Higher Education to provinces would result in drying up of foreign assistance in the field of education.

Ms. Asiya suggested following recommendations to meet these challenges:

- Appropriate institutional arrangements should be created at the Federal level. Two kinds of institutional

entities are desirable; one which is representative of the Federation and second, that manages effective inter-provincial linkages and coordination.

- A Cell should be established to deal with problems related to implementation of 18th Amendment.
- Capacity constraints within provincial governments should be addressed.
- The success of the reforms depend on development of appropriate domestic technical capabilities.
- 18th Amendment demands capacity building at all provincial institutions which would not be possible without carrying out reforms in the structure of the civil service.



- There should be a national regulatory authority to monitor provincial compliance of national minimum standards.

Pakistan's Relations with European Union (EU)

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Chair of the session Ambassador (R) Fauzia Nasreen, speakers and the audience. He said that relations between Pakistan and EU date back to 1974 but, the agreement that further strengthened relations, namely the "Cooperation Agreement on Partnership and Development" was signed in 2004. Subsequently, the "EU-Pakistan ad hoc Summits" were held in 2009, 2010. The Summit March 2012 led to the establishment of a new political framework, called the "Five-year Engagement Plan". The plan provided a framework of cooperation in areas of counter terrorism, trade, development, energy, human rights and democracy. He said that the EU had been contributing € 600 million as assistance to Pakistan since 2010. Within the framework of EU Plan of Action for 2014 to 2020, the EU would focus on good governance, human rights, rule of law, education and rural development. He said that the grant of GSP Plus status to Pakistan by the EU had boosted bilateral relations resulting in Pakistan-EU trade reaching US\$ 10 billion. He hoped that, in the coming time, new areas would be explored for future cooperation.

H.E. Lars-Gunnar Wigemark, Ambassador of the EU Delegation to Pakistan, shared the European perspective on Pakistan-EU ties. He said that there was a need to project Pakistan's image in Europe. He praised the Pakistani institutions that were teaching courses on European countries. Commenting on GSP plus arrangement, that removed tariff on over 91 per cent products, he said that the EU had such an arrangement with only 13 countries. He called upon Pakistan to utilize this facility to its maximum. He said that Pakistan needed to diversify its trade products from raw to finished goods. The business community should pursue a proactive policy.

EU's developmental work in Pakistan, particularly in KPK, FATA, Balochistan and South Punjab was also discussed by Mr.

Wigemark.

The following recommendations were made during the conference:

- EU is a model for regional cooperation, integration and peaceful neighbourhood. South Asian countries should aim at following the EU model.
- There are issues of illegal immigration to Europe; Pakistan and EU should work out an institutionalized solution to the problem. This will help in mitigating the adverse effects of anti-immigration policies of some European countries.



- China-Pakistan Economic Corridor holds the potential of transforming Pakistan into a North-South bridge. The country's strategic location can connect the EU to China and beyond for trade and commerce.
- Pakistan is a traditional partner of the EU whereas India has become its strategic partner. Pakistan must take measures and initiate an institutional process to develop strategic partnership with the EU.
- For enhancing political understanding, frequent interaction between the parliamentarians of Pakistan and EU may take place.
- Pakistan should project its soft image to attract investment from abroad. The National Action Plan to counter terrorism is a step in the right direction.

- Joint academic and research programmes were required to be launched with EU to learn from its advancement in Science and Technology.
- Currently more than 75% of Pakistan's export to EU comprise textiles and leather goods. To get maximum benefit from the EU market, the country must diversify its export products.
- Pakistan has a large youth bulge and industrial labour force which is likely to expand in the future. This demographic force, if trained properly, can find place in EU labour market.
- Solo exhibitions in EU member states may be held to raise awareness about Pakistan's traditional products.
- To cement Pakistan-EU relations, Pakistan should continue to maintain its partnership with NATO in Afghanistan and in the fight against terrorism.
- Exporters and manufactures should be sensitized on the significance of the EU market and should be facilitated to develop the quality standards acceptable there.
- A joint forum comprising representatives of the government of Pakistan, the EU delegation in Pakistan and the private sector should meet periodically to assess the progress with regard to GSP plus status prior to its scheduled review in 2016.
- EU should show flexibility on its own standards of human rights in respect of the Pakistan's National Action Plan considering special circumstances in Pakistan

CICIR Delegation Visits IPRI

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- China was focusing on the implementation of five-year plan for China-Pakistan cooperation which was announced in 2013 as the previous five year plan has not been completely implemented.
- Chinese delegation suggested a 'Supreme Preferential Agreement' between Pakistan and China. They proposed that there should be a Special Economic Zone (SEZ) between Islamabad and Lahore. This zone would increase trade activities between Pakistan and China.
- Chinese delegation predicted that Chinese heavy investment in industrial infrastructure development would increase in the near future where Chinese companies would install Chinese machinery.
- China would invest capital only while the human resource of Pakistan would be used which would create employment opportunities for Pakistani people.
- The security of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was interlinked with Afghanistan's stability. Therefore, it should

be a priority for both countries to help Afghanistan its post 2014 challenges.

- Due to efforts of Chinese Consulate at Karachi, more than 5000 businessmen were working with Chinese companies in Karachi, Balochistan, Shanghai and Beijing. Recently 500 businessmen from Chaman had signed agreement with nine Chinese companies for export of fruits and dry fruits to China.
- The delegation offered the services of Chinese teachers for skills development in Balochistan.

Pakistan-Africa Relations: Potential and Challenges

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Assistance Programme (PTAP). In this regard, the training and academic courses include: Public Administration, Diplomacy, Agriculture, Banking and Finance, Postal, Railways, Human Resource Management and Professional disciplines (Medicine, Engineering). Pakistan has trained more than 1500 personnel in various fields under PTAP.

- Pakistan maintains close relations with many African countries in the field of Defence.
- Pakistan and African countries are cooperating in many international fora, especially at the UN Security Council.



- Pakistan is linked with Africa through Asian-African Regional Organization Conference (AASROC), Non-Aligned Movement Centre for South-South Technical Cooperation and with several other Muslim African countries through Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC). These fora provide institutional framework for cooperation between Pakistan and Africa.
- Pakistan has played an important role in the decolonization of African countries and maintenance of peace by Pakistani soldiers through the UN peace keeping missions. Pakistan has been the highest contributor of troops (more than 8000 military and law enforcement personnel) to various UN Peacekeeping Operations.
- There is a great potential for further promoting and strengthening Pakistan's relations with African countries especially in the field of trade and commerce. Therefore, there is a need for taking tangible measures for promoting trade relations between them.
- Pakistan has recorded significant achievement in the fields of science and technology, information



technology, telecommunication, agriculture and agro-allied industries.

- There is a great potential for further promoting Pakistan-Africa ties in all fields through people to people contacts, organizing seminars on trade promotion and holding of Pakistani exhibitions. This would facilitate in identification of areas where mutual trade and investment are feasible.
- There is a need to create awareness among our businessmen, investors and traders about the huge economic potential of Africa.

Strategic Studies Summit on Building Partnership

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of the newly formed Working Groups on "Global Powers in the NESAR Region: Cooperation or Rivalry?" "Climate Change: Implications for Security and Governance", "Lessons on Combating Radicalism", and "Shale Revolution: Economic and Strategic Implications" summed up their research themes and timeline of their work. Salient points highlighted in plenary panels and working groups meetings are as under:

- The common challenges such as terrorism, extremism, climate change etc. were of transnational nature and strategic alliances would be required to counter them.
- Mediterranean security issues such as political instability, violence and terrorism would have spill-over effects on Europe. There is a need to develop mechanism for shared economic progress and intercultural dialogue.
- Iran's nuclear talks with P-5+1



country will have regional and global implications. Negotiations with Iran should be done in good faith to find a long term solution of Iran's nuclear issue. Negotiations are being finalized without regional powers but these talks should not be at their cost.

- Inclusive approach, plural values, political accommodation and meaningful power sharing are the important imperatives for creating conducive environment for post-conflict reconciliation and national reconstruction.
- Stability in Afghanistan is critical for regional security. There is a need to create common regional vision for stability in Afghanistan.
- Energy efficiency and energy conservation provide an excellent cost-effective way to reduce carbon emissions and achieve the climate change mitigation goals.

Pakistan-Africa Relations: Potential and Challenges



Qazi M. Khalilullah, Additional Secretary (ME & A) Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad visited IPRI to deliver a lecture on “Pakistan-Africa Relations: Potential and Challenges” on March 17, 2015. Following are the salient points of the lecture:

- One of the main objectives of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy is to promote foreign relations through economic diplomacy. There is a great potential for mutually beneficial relations with African countries.
- The African Continent is important as it is diverse, dynamic and rich in its traditions

and culture. It is the world’s second largest continent with 54 sovereign states and a collective GDP of \$2.20 trillion. The growth rate of Africa for 2015 is projected at 4.5%. It was about 5% last year. Out of fifty-seven members of OIC, twenty-seven members are Africans.

- Africa is rich in natural and mineral resources and is called the world’s storehouse of strategic raw materials. 80 per cent of the world’s platinum and chromium reserves, 60 per cent of diamond reserves and 40 per cent of gold reserves are located in Africa.

- Africa has become the centre of attraction for major powers like United States, China, European Union and India. It is also receiving renewed attention from all over the world and is being seen as “the Continent of the future”.

- Pakistan has resident missions in 14 African countries including Libya, Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, Nigeria, Niger, South Africa, Mauritius, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan and Ethiopia. The remaining 39 African countries are covered through concurrent accreditation.
 - Pakistan is offering training facilities to African diplomats in the Foreign Service Academy, Defence Services Academies and is also providing educational scholarships under Pakistan Technical
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IPRI PARTICIPATION IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Strategic Studies Summit on Building Partnership

Ambassador (R) Sohail Amin, President IPRI and Mr. Muhammad Munir, Research Fellow, IPRI participated in the annual Strategic Studies Summit on “Building Partnership” held in Antalya, Turkey from March 23-25, 2015. Four other participants from Pakistan included three representatives of National Defence University, Islamabad. The event was organized by Strategic Studies Network (SSN) of Near East South Asia (NESA) Centre, National Defence University, Washington D.C. in collaboration with Center for Middle Eastern Strategic Studies (ORSAM), Ankara Turkey. About one hundred participants from 60 think tanks of South Asia, Middle East and North Africa attended the Summit. The purpose of the Summit was to build partnership to tackle common problems that were beyond the capacity of a single nation or organization. The Summit comprised of three plenary sessions and five meetings of the six working groups.

In the first plenary session Gawdat Bahgar, Director, SSN and Mr. Saban

Kardas, President, ORSAM in their introductory remarks highlighted the importance of the summit and welcomed the participants. The Arab League



Representative in Turkey, Ambassador Mohamed El Fatea Naciri in his keynote address discussed the

regional security issues. He said that the absence of multilateral diplomacy and adoption of unilateral approach of President Bush in his military action in Afghanistan and Iraq disturbed the balance of power in the region.

While commenting on the US-Iran nuclear talks, Ambassador Naciri said that Israel was not happy on US-Iran negotiations for nuclear deal. Israel had been spying on US-Iran nuclear talks and Benjamin Netanyahu had been criticizing the US-Iran nuclear talks. Gulf States were also not happy about US-Iran negotiations. There was a problem with P5+1 process as no country from the region was included in the talks.

The second plenary session was devoted to presentations on the findings of 2014 Working Groups on “Mediterranean Security”, “Iran in Regional and Global Perspectives”, “Maritime Security in the Indian Ocean”, “Post-conflict Reconciliation”, and “Afghanistan in Transition”. In closing plenary, the Chairs

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