

Pakistan is out of the grey list of FATF by successfully completing the toughest ever plan given by the organization. Critically evaluate the performance and its positive implications on Pakistan.

1. Introduction

In the year 2018, Pakistan was put once again on the grey list by the international watchdog; FATF. FATF since inception has aimed at curtailing the massive money laundering and terror financing globally. By ensuring a list of relevant safeguards, FATF has been imposing suggestive measures to counter both issues. Pakistan's placement in the grey list was a warning with serious implications - something rival states of Pakistan would have thoroughly enjoyed. In the wake of being removed from the grey list, a 27 point action plan was given to the country. Compliance in due time was necessary to exit the grey list. From the year 2018 to 2022, efforts at government and institutional level made it possible for Pak to finally exit the list in Oct 2022. Pakistan's exit from the grey list holds immense diplomatic and economic value for the country with a number of positive implications.

2) - Performance from 2018-2022 : Adhering to the 27 point action plan

- a) amendment in the Anti Money Laundering Act 2010 in 2020
- b) Establishment of licensed, registered and regulated businesses under SECP
- c) Enhanced verification system for all monetary transactions
- d) Rated largely compliant by end of 2021.
- e) Establishment of Proshan Digital Accounts to authenticate capital inflows
- f) Legal steps to fulfill FATF agenda : FERA Amendment, NACTA amendment, Benami Transaction ordinance 2019.

3) Positive Implications for Pakistan

- a) strengthened system of money regulation within and with out
- b) enhanced business regulation mechanism

- c) reduction in room to engage in benami transactions and money laundering
- d) Facing the grey list. A diplomatic achievement for Pakistan
- e) Creates space for increased foreign direct investment.
- f) Easier acquisition of loans and enhanced debt servicing mechanism.

Conclusion

Hall speakers

Gandhi's India has become overwhelmingly Godse's India. Compare and contrast Hindutva in India to Jewish Zionism of Israel.

1) Introduction.

2) From Gandhi to Godse : The Indian paradigm shift.

- a) From secular India to Hindutva ideology
- b) The road from democracy to Fascism.

3) Hindutva and Zionism : United by ideology

- a) Kashmir and Palestine : two parallels of a similar ideology
- b) supremacy of religious rhetoric
- c) ethnic cleansing : the modus operandi of both.
- d) The prevalence of nationalist sentiment
- e) Massive dehumanization : a manifestation of superiority complex.
- f) Zionist Israel and Akhand Bharat

4) The differences in Hindutva and Zionist ideologies

- a) Zionism : A fascism supported by all.
- b) Hindutva as a newly emerging rightist ideology
- c) Zionism targets Palestinians whereas Hindutva targets all non-Hindus dwelling in India
- d) Zionism : a global phenomenon vs Hindutva : a regional phenomenon
- e) The advent of Zionism rooted in suppression whereas Hindutva is an opportunist ideology.

5) Conclusion

ONS Israel visited India - briefing of Kashmir from India.
pellet guns

ISKP, TTP and its affiliates are holding grounds in Afghanistan resulting into increasing security threats for Pakistan. Critically evaluate the reasons and give policy recommendations.

1) Introduction

2) Security implications for Pakistan vis a vis TTP and ISKP

- a) possible terror attacks on Pakistani territory
- b) aggressive propaganda strategy to recruit fighters for the region
- c) accentuation of sectarianism in Pakistan

3) Reasons for emergence of ISKP, TTP as a security threat for Islamabad.

- a) Resurgence of Taliban regime in Afghanistan
- b) an extensive shared border between Afghanistan and Pakistan
- c) higher risks of cross border terrorism
- d) increased recruitment activities on the tribal belt
- e) hurdles for ongoing BRI / CPEC projects

4) Policy recommendations for Islamabad to counter threats

- a) The enhanced role of regional organisations; military training sessions, mitigation of digital propaganda
- b) symbolize and materialize unity against terrorist threats in the region
- c) Implementation of EU inspired digital judicial cooperation mechanism
- d) develop close association with regional neighbors in matters of collective security.

5) Conclusion

Despite strong research base, youth bulge, rich lands, reasonable water resources and various reforms; why agricultural sector and industry remained less developed in Pak. Discuss.

1) Introduction

2) Pakistan: A land of opportunity

a) youth bulge advantage b) rich resourceful land c) water resources.

3) Youth bulge, strong research base:

Factors responsible for it less developed agriculture

- lack of proper skill base / skill set in the ever increasing youth
- low rates of literacy throughout Pakistan.
- lack of academic/researches application in policy making / strategy.
- Youth inclined towards medicine, moving abroad due to brain drain

4) The mismanagement of land and water resources

- feudalistic agricultural practices in rural Punjab and Sindh
- political maneuverers on lands rich in natural resources: The case of Reko Dik, and Thar
- lack of water management: politicization of dams, lack of canal system, substandard infrastructure
- concentration of infrastructure in certain regions of Pak
- non utilization of energy sources at hand and import of hydro carbons
- no focus on implementation of patent: The case of Basmati rice

5) The loopholes in land reforms and relevant policies

- Institutional corruption: an age old story
- political and feudal opposition towards land reforms
- personal vendettas and private profit schemes preferred over national interests.

6) Conclusion:

On one hand US-Russia military conflict in Ukraine intensifying and on the other US China conflict regarding Taiwan has resumed. Critically evaluate the policy options with Washington.

Introduction: As the world moves towards multipolarity, US is being faced with the resurgence and rise of new regional and global powers. On one side China's rapid economic rise has increased its presence and significance internationally while Russia's expansionist agendas under Putin have made strategists analyse possibilities of Russian resurgence. Contemporarily, China's claim over Taiwan and Russia's attack on Ukraine both have put reengaged US as the super power putting pressure on Washington to evaluate their strategy and policy options moderately.

2) US policy vis a vis China-Taiwan conflict and Russo-Ukrainian war so far.

3) Policy options with Washington to counter China Taiwan conflict

- Act as mediator between China and Taiwan
- Reimplement the stance of strategic ambiguity policy
- Reaffirm the US 'One China Policy'
- Pivot in Asia essential for Washington
- Focus on emerging Atlantic Pacific partnership
- Washington's potential role in resolving SCS conflict
- US should opt for A2AD strategy.

4) Washington's Policy options vis a vis Russia Ukraine war.

- US role in revitalizing European economic disintegration
- Diplomatic ventures to curtail large scale armed conflict
- US leadership role to help allies find alternatives to Russian gas
- Trust building with Europe in cyber domain
- Role as mediator to end the ongoing war

5) Conclusion

Islamic state of Afghanistan
Taliban rule of Afghanistan
Transition Taliban to
Afghan return

ISKP, INV, ETIM and over the security situation in Afghanistan has become a major challenge for SCO. Recommend policy options for the organisations and its members to improve the security situation in the region.

Introduction: The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation stands as one of the major Eurasian political, economic and security forums since 2001. The member states include Russia, China, Pakistan, India and a few Central Asian states. The US exit from Afghanistan and the subsequent deteriorating security situation in the region has serious implications on the member countries, which are mostly geographically interlinked. Other terrorist and extremist organisations such as ISKP, INV, and ETIM have also played a significant role in influencing regional security dynamics extending to almost all member nations of SCO.

2) An overview of operational activities: ISKP, ETIM, INV and Afghan security situation.

3) Policy options for SCO.

- create a specialised security nexus vis a vis emerging threats
- joint military training and exercises to counter collective threat
- Increased digital collective security to counter propaganda.
- Information and intelligence Exchange mechanism development
- setup a multilateral judicial commission.

How India and Pakistan can play a positive role

- Bilateral cooperation in areas of mutual interest to ↓ threat
- multipronged approach to counter ISKP and its sub bodies
- regulate cyber security to reduce propaganda
- mitigate their activities in guise of Kashmiri militants
- .

China's policy options

- a) eliminate Uighur propaganda.
- b) enhance connectivity within the region
- c) joint counter terrorism operations: a necessity.

Conclusion .

Economic Diplomacy and the future of International Relations

i) Introduction:

ii) Influence of economic diplomacy in shaping International relations

1) The role of economic statecraft

of achieving wider national interests through economic diplomacy: The Chinese rise

b) Use of economic sanctions to manipulate global dynamics: US and Iran.

c) US-China trade war: shaping future of international relations

d) economic diplomacy: a soft power tactic

e) The growing interdependence among global actors = Present and future prospects.

f)

ii) Bilateral economic diplomacy: Future global prospects.

a) The OPEC+ nations vs the US: Oil politics

b) use of economy to curtail nuclear proliferation: The case of Iran and N. Korea

c) Global ^{economic} rise of China: a pivot for world politics

d) Indian rise and its political implications on Indo-Pak relations

e) MNC's role in determining potential bilateral relations between nations

f) mergers and acquisitions marking IR.

iii) Multilateral economic statecraft shaping the world

a) transnational organisations and future of IR: WTO, NAFTA etc

b) outsourcing services: a potent influence of international relations

c) Russo-Ukrainian war: Energy politics, above all wars.

d) growing participation of NCGOs in \mathbb{R} int governance and economic diplomacy

e) economic diplomacy = connecting the globe-trotter

f) economic partnerships = a key driver of international strategic relations

iv) Conclusion

Every state designs its foreign policy on its National Interest rejecting feelings and emotions. Why did Pakistan prefer feelings, emotions and ideology in its foreign policy. Also analyze its impact.

1) Introduction

ii) How foreign policies are made worldwide

- objectivity
- national interest is key

iii) The foundations of Pakistan's foreign policy.

- roots in Islam
- concept of ummah
- Pakistan ka matlab kya.
- FP over Kashmir
- FP over Palestine

iv) The inclusion of emotion and ideology in Pak FP: Reasons

- Advent of Pakistan linked to religious nationalism
- Foreign policy towards India: Honors of a bloody partition
- The everlasting element of sacrifice: A key element of FP
- Concept of Muslim ummah reiterated: The case of Palestine
- Widespread public sentiment lies with religious ideology
- The only nuclear 'muslim' power in the world: Concept of the Islamic bomb
- Countering the Indian threat.

v) Impact of foreign policy driven by emotion/ideology

- Lack of neutral decisions in global matters
- hardline decisions: The travel ban on Israel
- Emergence as a pseudo religious country with a strong right wing
- Enhanced victimisation via proxy and hybrid wars
- Continuous enmity with India further ignited.

vi) Recommended alterations in the foreign policy

- Increase rationality and objectivity during decision making
- viewing the world with contemporary lens
- improve relations with all countries

d, neutral stance where conflict appears: Iran vs. USA / de facto.

iii) Conclusion

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"Geopolitical stability and socioeconomic stability of South Asian region depends upon future of Afghanistan" Discuss the state matters with reference to Afghan situation post fall of Kabul. Also discuss Pakistan's role in bringing stability in Afghanistan.

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i) Introduction

ii) The significance of Afghanistan: Geopolitical and Socioeconomic value

iii) Afghan debacle and South Asian geopolitical landscape.

a) The resurgence of Taliban: an imminent regional security threat

b) Incentive for ISKP, TTP and other terrorist outfits to resume activities in the region

c) The imminent dangers to Chinese BRI investments in the region

d) Afghanistan: The next lithium energy source for the world.

e) Afghan soil as gateway to Central Asia.

f) The operational limitations of regional organisations: SCO, and more

2 g) Porous border between Pak / Afg: a geopolitical dilemma

h) Probability of foreign intervention: collateral damages to Pak.

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iv) The Afghan situation vis a vis South Asian socioeconomic platform.

a) Rise of the Taliban: Advent of a humanitarian crisis in the region

b) The influx of Afghan migrants into Pakistan: The Porous Border Effect

c) Rising gun culture on the tribal belt.

d) Prevalence of a newfound wave of sectarian hatred

e) Women and human right violations in Afghanistan

f) Destruction of infrastructure: A consequence of removal of Taliban in the region

g) social unrest in Pak: An episode of collateral damage

v) Pakistan's role in stabilisation of region: Post Fall of Kabul

a) Pakistan's extensive role in Afghan peace process

b) strategy of communication and cooperation with Taliban

c) Acceptance of cross border refugee influx.

- d) Pak's role as mediator/arbitrator between US and Afg Taliban
- e) Pak's "Islamic" FP demeanor towards Afghan Taliban
- f) diplomatic meetings organized between Pak-Afg Taliban officials.

vi) Conclusion

Explain objectives and determinants of Paks foreign policy.

I) Introduction

Nations across the world respond to global developments through their respective foreign policies. A mechanism under which states choose to behave and present themselves on international level is the states foreign policy. Each state formulates its own unique policy keeping under consideration various objectives, determinants and goals. For instance some states may have an aggressive foreign policy while others portray a softer side. The behaviour of states is exhibited via their foreign policies which are ever evolving, influenced by various factors. In the case of Pakistan, the countries threat perception, history and swabness shape the foreign policy. Like other nations it has a unique set of determinants and objectives.

ii) The evolving nature of Pakistans foreign policy

iii) Objectives of Pak foreign policy

- to protect national interests of the state
- to promote a softer image of Pakistan globally
- to maintain cordial relations with xval neighbors: India
- to curtail the rising instability in Afghanistan.
- to peacefully reach a settlement over disputes: Kashmir Dispute
- to protect and guard the Pakistani diaspora across the world
- to propagate a positive image of 'Islam' across the world
- foreign policy as tool to highlight Paks efforts in maintaining world targets for various issues eg Climate change

iv) Determinants of Pakistans foreign policy

- The age old rivalry with influential India
- The 'Islamic' ideology of Pakistan
- Kashmir dispute - a major determinant of Foreign policy
- The Afghan debacle: prominent influence of policy making
- Nuclear capability and how it alters foreign policy

the existence of non-traditional security threats, shipping foreign policies of strategic location influencing foreign policy of Pakistan.

v) Conclusion

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Define power. Explain with examples the concept of hard power, soft power and smart power in international politics.

i) Introduction

1) The phenomenon of Power.

- a) definition as per Merriam Webster dictionary
- b) Michael Barnett's conceptualisation of power.
- c) The Machiavellian deconstruction of power.
- d) Power as security, capability, influence, goal and status

ii) Concept of Hard Power

- a) definition and elucidation of hard power
- b) The world wars and Nazism: a manifestation of hard power
- c) The neorealist perspective: Mearsheimer's proposition
- d) The Indo-Pak war of 1965
- e) US invasion of Iraq 2003: showing off hard power
- f) The Afghan war: manifestation of hard power in the 21st century
- g) Russo Ukrainian war 2022: The continuation of hard power

iii) Soft power and its role in international politics

- a) debates, dialogues and cultural influence
- b) utilisation of international platforms to make power statements
e.g UN
- c) The exhibition of soft power via economic supremacy and domination: IMF, WB and other monetary org.
- d) The game of propaganda, fake news, media hijack and more:
A case study of Israel-Palestine conflict
- e) cultural infiltration by alien forces to assert their ideologies

iv) The amalgam of hard and soft power: Smart power

- a) The use of smart power: A look into the Kashmir dispute
- b) US invasion to Iraq: an amalgam of hard/soft power

- c) US treatment during the Cold war: a manifestation of smart power.
- d) United Nations as an instrument for smart power.
- e) The Yemen crisis: a war shaped with smart power.

w) Conclusion

Hard power

- coercive tactics to influence decisions
- realists support this theory
- use of weapons, wars, conflicts
- engaging in aggression to achieve agendas.

Healthcare

Discusses in detail the new maritime security challenges for Indian Ocean region.

i) Introduction:

Of the five oceans in the world, the Indian Ocean lies at the crossroads of the world. With India and Pakistan towards its North and Africa towards the West the region holds immense strategic importance. The eastern side of Indian Ocean touches the Andaman sea; a region with strong Chinese influence. As the world becomes more globalised countries find new trade routes and passages to enhance economy. The Arabian sea, Andaman sea and adjacent region is the area of access for many landlocked economies of the world. With all eyes on the region new security challenges in the Ocean have inevitably emerged.

ii) Maritime security and its importance

iii) The geoeconomics of Indian Ocean

- i) Arabian Sea: The protection of the only warm water deep sea.
- ii) Trade with African continent via Indian Ocean
- iii) The Malacca dilemma of China and the Indian Ocean.

iv) Security challenges for Indian Ocean region

- i) The formation of The QUAD: a challenge for opponents
- ii) China's increasing presence: The Andaman Islands
- iii) military build-up in the oceanic region
- iv) overlapping claims on maritime territories in the Indian Ocean
- v) US naval bases in the region
- vi) Climatic challenges: rising sea levels
- vii) The element of piracy and maritime crimes

v) Conclusion

Discuss the key features of US new Indo-Pacific strategy under Biden administration. How does it treat China?

Introduction

- i) The Indo-Pacific strategy under Biden: A continuity of policy.
 - a) Bolstering the Indo-Pacific regional security
 - b) Enhanced focus on QUAD.
 - c) eliminating strategic challenges faced by AUKUS
 - d) stepping up relations with ASEAN
 - e) Inclusion of climate change in the strategy: The Pacific Islands ✓
 - f) Building collective capacity: Economic, military
 - g) strengthen relations with India
 - h) reemphasise US engagement in the region
 - i) Economic agenda for region by the US
 - j) Free and open Indo Pacific
 - k) using Indian engagement to offset China's rise
 - l) dissuade aggression in the region
- ii) Treatment of China under Indo-Pacific strategy
 - a) strengthening US alliances to counter China's rise
 - b) demonize, human rights violations: Uighurs, Xinjiang
 - c) containment of China's authoritarian mercantilist model
 - d) Core strategy: Change environment, not China
 - e) Washington vs Beijing is US's sovereignty vs servitude
 - f) reconcile with India appeasing Russia to avoid Sino-Russian cooperation
 - g) greater military engagement in the maritime region.

iii) Conclusion

Climate change: A security threat to Pakistan

1) Introduction:

Thesis Statement: There is a consensus that in contemporary times, climate change is the greatest factor behind the transition from traditional to non traditional threats globally. Rapid climate change has led to increased vulnerability of Pakistan and has established itself as an imminent security threat for the country requiring immediate attention and mitigation policies.

2. Climate change: An emerging security threat.

3. The Evolution of Security Paradigms vis a vis Climate Change

- Global shift from traditional to non traditional threats.
- Impact of climate change on hard and soft power
- significance of Pakistan's 'national security policy': Emphasis on elements of soft power

4. How climate change poses security threat: Case of Pakistan

- Pakistan: The fourth most vulnerable nation
- Damage to economic infrastructure and human resource: security implications
- The perpetuality of climatic adversities: a security dilemma

5. Climate change in Pakistan: Impact on security dynamics

- water scarcity: an emerging security challenge
- food insecurity: A death sentence to 220 million
- evolving threats to health: poor air quality and water borne diseases
- the security challenges pertaining to mass displacement
- Rising dependency on The First World: security implications
- over engagement of military to curtail adverse impact of climate change: a security threat to defense
- Sharp increase in domestic crime rate: a consequence of climate driven disasters

6. Measures to mitigate 'climate change' driven security threats
- a) enhancing infrastructure and drainage mechanism: steps towards water conservation
 - b) investment in climate resistant crops and maintenance of crop inventory: control mechanism for food insecurity
 - c) Efforts on diplomatic fronts to hold global emitters accountable
 - d) Increased focus on disaster prevention, management and relief mechanism
 - e) Emphasis on long term solutions for adversities of climate change
 - f) Projection of Pakistan as an active propagator of climate efficiency globally.

7. Conclusion

Climate Change as security threat to Pakistan.

Introduction:

The world has witnessed a significant shift in the concept of threat and security over the past decade. The perception of threat previously pivoted on the concept of traditional threats transitioned into non-traditional security threats. In contemporary times, the greatest challenge faced by the world is the development of effective policies to counter these emerging non-traditional security threats. These include food insecurity, water scarcity, prevalence of disease and mass displacement among many other problems. There is global consensus upon the fact that climate change is the most significant factor responsible for the shift in security paradigms. Pakistan is among the top ten most nations vulnerable to the adversities of climate change. In the mid-June of 2022 a climate catastrophe hit Pakistan in the shape of floods. These floods not only affected the down-trodden economy badly but also created one of the worst forms of humanitarian crisis in the country in a matter of days. As reported by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) in August 2022, Pakistan experienced an increase of 789% more rainfall than the past 30-year average. A figure significant enough to raise eyebrows. Such a climate emergency also invited global concern and attention towards an imminent threat. Thus, climate change in reality is an emerging security threat gathering pace as we speak. Its adverse impacts require immediate measures to mitigate the potential damage it may cause in Pakistan and the possible threats to human security which may come with it.

Cyber Security in Pakistan: Challenges & Way forward.

1) Introduction:

The global expansion in the realm of cyber space is a consequence of development in the field of Information technology. Pakistan is also among beneficiaries of this development however this digitalization comes with a price. As a nuclear state with an influential geostrategic location, Pakistan remains exposed to the threats associated with cyber security, thereby reiterating the need for establishment of safeguards in order to eliminate threats and make cyber space more secure.

2) Cyber security: an emerging challenge for Pakistan

3) Emergence of cyber security concept in Pakistan

a) Formulation of National Cybersecurity Policy 2021.

b) Enhanced level of online transactions

c) the era of information warfare: a cyber war catalyst

4) Challenges to cyber security in Pakistan

a) Lack of professionals to deal with cyber security emergencies

b) National Cyber security Policy 2021: a generic document

c) Inability to keep up with rapid developments in cyberspace

d) Hacking and theft via cyber attacks: cyber attack on governmental cyber space

e) Threat to military and digital infrastructure

f) Information warfare in political arena: Deep fake, audio leaks, phone tapping

5) Way forward to address the challenges to cyber security

a) train more people in cyber security and relevant fields

b) streamline legislations regarding cyber security

c) Enhance CERT: education and academia's role to counter cyber threats

d) Development of Internet Exchange Point (IXP) to minimise information loss during transmission

e) formulation of a multilayered cyber security plan

f) separation of 'security' and 'legal right to privacy' of citizens including political figures

6) Conclusion