

Global power dynamics and Pakistan's foreign policy.

① Introduction:

Shifting global dynamics require a vibrant foreign policy for any country to adapt to the emerging world order. The current scenario presents a challenge for Pakistan in the form of crippled economy and political instability. Hence, the external policy of Pakistan requires elements of conflict resolution and an ability to tackle changing events.

② Relation between changing global power dynamics and foreign policy.

③ Implications of shifting global power dynamics on Pakistan:

(i) Economic repercussions of changing

global events:

- (a) Russia and Ukraine conflict -
constraining the ambit of Pakistan's
trade.
- (b) Strengthening relations between
United States and India - rising
deterrence shown by India.
- (c) Expanding the scope of economic
blocs - Pakistan's exclusion from
BRICS and G20.

(ii) Consequences of shifting geo-political
landscapes faced by Pakistan:

- (a) US exit from Afghanistan -
accelerated terror activities in
Pakistan.
- (b) Reshaping the demographic
indicators of Kashmir - Pakistan's
inability to tackle it.

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(iii) Effect of rising issues of
contemporary times on Pakistan.

- a) A critical decade of climate change - Pakistan's inclination towards climate diplomacy.
- b) Presence of proxy warfare - rise in activity of non-state actors.

④ Current situation of foreign policy of Pakistan in tackling the dynamics of global power:

(i) Strengthening attributes presented by foreign policy of Pakistan:

- (a) Maintaining a non-aligned foreign policy.
- (b) Focusing on humanitarian issues.
- (c) Pushing for regional economic integration.

(ii) Fault lines present in Pakistan's foreign policy:

- (a) Reactive foreign policy in terms of Kashmir issue.
- (b) Inability to resist the rising

trajectory of non-state actors
interference in country

(c) Exclusion of Pakistan from
major organisations leading
power politics.

⑤ A nexus of change that can
be displayed by foreign policy
of Pakistan in respect to the
changing global power dynamics.

- (i) A proactive foreign policy to
deal with Kashmir issue.
- (ii) Regional integration to enhance
economic cooperation.
- (iii) Coordination among countries
for a resilient security framework.
- (iv) Mutual respect displayed at
international level and inclusion
in leading organisations.

⑥ Conclusion.

The global power dynamics have frequently changed over the last few decades, presenting various challenges and opportunities for a country to encounter. The multitude of aspects of global events can be gauged from the myriad of implications they present. Global affairs transforms the events of the world holistically, as they compel the state's inclination in the global arena and also affect the internal affairs of the country. The transforming energy of global events pushes the foreign policy of a country to be present as a forefront player at the global stage. To adequately guide a country through the altering events of the world, foreign policy requires a strong attributes of adaptability and strength. Shifting global dynamics require a vibrant foreign policy for any country to adapt to the emerging world order. The current scenario presents a

a challenge for Pakistan in ^{the} form of a crippled economy and political instability. Hence, the external policy of Pakistan requires elements of conflict resolution and an ability to tackle changing events.

The changing global power dynamics can be juxtaposed with the foreign policy of any country owing to the interconnection that is present. The changing aspects of the world reshape the posture of a country towards the world's affairs. This is evident through the rich history of changing world order, where the constant swing between multipolarity and bloc politics is quite visible. Along the course of time, the stature of Pakistan's foreign policy changed many times. In retrospect, the Pakistan's inclination towards the west during the initial years of independence can be seen, with a gradual shift towards a non-aligned foreign policy afterwards.

However, with the advent of global war on terror, Pakistan became an alliance of the US and gradually expanded its sphere of relations with other regional countries as well. Hence, the changing global order transformed the foreign of the country to adapt to the agility of events.

The implications of shifting global power dynamics on Pakistan are visible through a tier of effects displayed in economic, political and security domains of the country. The most visible repercussion of world events can be seen in the economic sphere, where the recent inclusion of Russo-Ukraine war has disrupted the balance of supply and demand chain. With major constraints present in the trading conduit of the wheat basket of world, a sharp decline in the import of staple food was seen in Pakistan.

The reciprocity of the events can

be measured through an increased resistance seen in Pakistan's textile export to Russia and a constant struggle of opening avenues with the Russian region. Therefore, the spillage of a conflict zone in Eurasia can be seen directly impeding the trade paths of Pakistan.

The strategy opted by regional players also exhibits repercussions towards the bordering countries.

In context of Pakistan, strengthening relations between India and US posits a rising deterrence shown towards Pakistan. With the focus on China's containment policy, US is facilitating the expansion of military and economic domains of India. This approach is reflected through an increase in agreements between the two countries in the form of Quadrilateral Security Dialogue, two plus two dialogues and ^{weapon} import of around

eleven percent from US. This scenario pushes Pakistan to allocate an increase amount of budget to defence and security spectrum of the country.

The recent budget document reflects this view as defence budget accounts to nearly 1.7 percent of gross domestic product. Hence, a changing inclination of regional player directly implicates the primary objective of Pakistan.

With the increasing pace seen in shifting global power dynamics, there is a visible expansion of economic blocs.

The narrative of contemporary world affairs changes the contour of the most powerful authority, from exhibiting military strength towards a dominant economy. This new arising view of the twenty first century has underscored the importance of economic blocs. The recent tussle can be seen through the increasing ambit of emerging global

South order versus the leading global north order. The expansion of the Brazil, Russia, China, India (BRICS) and G-20 is recently seen with inclusion of Iran, African Union and other countries. Absence of Pakistan at these platforms presents the economic constraints faced by the country and its crippled economy. Therefore, the shifting global landscape positions Pakistan in a very vulnerable situation of economic implications to deal with.

Among the many other ~~or~~ consequences of changing global affairs, the geopolitical sphere of the country is also affected. With the exit of United States from Afghanistan, a lacuna was formed not only for the Taliban's to form a regime, but also for the non-state actors to accelerate the terror activities. Pakistan, due to its geographical congruity and porous border faces

a sharp increase in terror activities. Global Terrorism Index has placed Pakistan among the top ten countries most affected by terrorism in 2022, with a significant rise in death due to terrorism. As a result, the closure of war on terror in Afghanistan directly rattles the Pakistan's national paradigm.

Another, important regional conflict that provokes the response of Pakistan towards transforming geo-political factors, is the Kashmir conflict. The recent revocation of article 370 and 35-A has completely overturned the demographic indicators of Kashmir. This scenario presents a vulnerable situation for Pakistan to tackle. India's race to acquire an approval for the humanitarian crisis in Kashmir has pulled Pakistan towards reshuffling its external policies to gain international assistance for this conflict. Hence, as the global focus of

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key players shift towards ~~the~~ other regions of the world, Pakistan resists to highlight the looming Kashmir saga.

There is an emergence of contemporary issues seen as well, with ~~the~~ frequent change of global aspects. One of the most prominent issue is of climate change ~~which is~~, due to which this decade is termed as ^{one of the} critical decades of the time. Pakistan, again owing to its non-resilient ~~structure~~ structure against climate change, is one of the ~~most~~ affectees of this issue. It has ardently tried to mobilise the channel of climate diplomacy. In this regards, Pakistan has raised the issue of climate change at Conference of Parties (COP27) and placed Loss and Damage fund in ~~at~~ the agenda. Therefore, the rising issue of today's time is dictating the stance of Pakistan at international

forum.

Another issue of contemporary times is proxy warfare that is reshaping the contours of nation's structural fault lines. The presence of a strong proxy warfare in the country is visible through the economic crunch and political instability.

The EuDisinfo Lab reports present an evidence for a regime being played against Pakistan. The strong foothold of this non-kinetic warfare, compromises the reception of Pakistan at the international market. Hence, the proxy warfare, in times of changing global power dynamics, effects the position of Pakistan in global arena.

The foreign policy of Pakistan, presents itself as a vanguard against the changing global affairs. The current position of foreign policy of Pakistan displays both ends of

the spectrum of attributes. One of the most prominent aspect of today's policy of Pakistan is the neutral stance of the country. This reflects the non-aligned foreign policy, along with the refraining of Pakistan in indulging in bloc politics. As seen in recent times, Pakistan remained impartial towards the Ukraine conflict, while incentivising the resolution of conflict through peaceful means. This scenario clearly presents the position of Pakistan in today's times.

Another, attribute of strength is put forward by the external policy of the country in the form of increased inclination towards the humanitarian crisis. From the very start Pakistan has been actively engaged in raising the voice ~~to~~ as a plea for the tyranny against Palestinians. For this very reason Pakistan does not recognise the

State of Israel and has used United Nations Security Council (UNSC) multiple times to raise the argument in favour of Palestine. Therefore, the plurality of the foreign policy of Pakistan is evident through assistance in humanitarian crisis.

The positive development of the foreign policy of the country can be seen through the spectrum of economic integration. Pakistan has always advocated for the rise of economic integration. Multiple trade agreements define the propensity of Pakistan, in this regard. Pakistan's cognisance in this aspect can be seen through participation of the country in China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India pipeline (TAPI), and opening up of channels with Gulf countries. Therefore, the prominent position

of Pakistan in economic integration is seen prominently.

The other end of the spectrum of the attributes, present a number of fault lines in the policy at international level. Pakistan, from the very start, has been inclined to resolve the issue of Kashmir. However, this proclivity of Pakistan has mostly remained futile, due to the presence of a reactive foreign policy. Due to the presence of ineffective policy in terms of Kashmir conflict, a vacuum was created for India to utilise it. The revocation of articles 370 and 35-A was possible only due to the incapable adoption of strategy by Pakistan. Therefore, one of the major issues of today's policy is the stagnation of Kashmir dispute.

Furthermore, the foreign policy of

Pakistan is unable to tackle the issue of increased meddling of non-State actors. The country's government is ineffectual in persuading the Taliban's regime, regarding the mitigation of terrorists and porous border. The mere presence of ^(TTP) Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan on the Afghan soils, displays the weakened position of Pakistan. Hence, the rising trajectory in operations of TTP against Pakistan, ~~is~~ set forth the ineffective position of foreign policy ~~is~~.

Another weakening point displayed by foreign policy ~~is~~ ~~is~~ is the exclusion of Pakistan from ^{the} leading economic organisations of today. The reinvigoration of the old spice route in the form of India-Middle East-Europe corridor ~~is~~ at the G-20 summit, deepens the exclusion of Pakistan from international integration. Although, the crippled economy and political

instability represents the factors for Pakistan's exclusion, but the inability of foreign policy in creating a receptive framework of the country cannot be overlooked. Hence, the cornered position of Pakistan in rising Global South order, due to external policies of the country, cannot be neglected.

A myriad of change can be adopted by foreign policy of Pakistan to tackle the issues of emerging world order. One of the major issues faced by Pakistan is the illegal occupation of India in Jammu and Kashmir. The mere presence of India, constantly posits a state of deterrence for Pakistan. To tackle this hegemonic issue, the stature of Pakistan's policy need to be reshaped. There needs to be a shift from ~~in~~ predisposition of warfare towards lawfare and utilisation of

back channel diplomacy to resolve this issue. As a result of more pro-active foreign policy needs to be adapted by the country.

The foreign policy of Pakistan needs to be more active in engaging the country at multiple levels of economic integration. With the recent rapprochement of Saudi Arabia and Iran, multiple avenues of trade agreement for Pakistan can be opened up. Along with this, a strong display of image should be initiated through participation in multiple summits, to enhance the presence of Pakistan in economic integration. Therefore, the onus of ^{increasing} regional cooperation lies with foreign policy of Pakistan.

Another important aspect of the foreign policy needs to be strengthened, that is the coordination among the countries to enhance the

Security framework of the country.

Regarding this aspect, the inclusion of Afghanistan in bilateral talks with representation of firm and objective stance of the country needs to be done. There should be no pliability shown from Pakistan with respect to the growing faction of Taliban.

Pakistan can also play its role in neutralising the aversion of global players towards Afghanistan and assist in forming a stable structure of governance. Hence, the foreign policy of Pakistan needs to expand from both the provision and reception ends.

Among the multitude of transformative regime to be adopted by foreign policy, there needs to be enhanced display of mutual respect at international level.

The contemporary time requires the discouragement of zero sum policies to be proposed against the

rivalries. In this aspect, the myopic vision of Indo-Pak strategies need to be toned down. Pakistan's foreign policy showed agility in this aspect, ^{the country's} through marking ^{its} presence at SCO summit held in India. However, the constrained relationship requires a strong position of foreign policy that will compel the rival to assist in formation of cordial relations ^{well} as a One way of displaying this reciprocity is to ^{halt} the act of exclusion of Pakistan among organizations. Thus, the characteristic of mutual respect needs to be displayed by the states.

The changing global power dynamics of the world presents a myriad of opportunities and challenges for a ~~the~~ country to face. To tackle the shifting global ~~events~~ events, while providing stability to the country is the key role to be displayed by the ^{external policy} country. Consequently, there are multiple ~~ramifications~~ ramifications

of global landscape to be encountered
by Pakistan. With the presence of
ongoing ~~conflicts~~ conflicts and enhanced
~~coalition~~ coalition among countries,

the foreign policy of Pakistan
needs to present strong indicators
to guide the country through
the tumultuous ~~waves~~ waves
of global affairs.