

Shrinking space for freedom

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Pakistani citizens face the shrinking space for freedom, particularly the curtailment of civil liberties and freedom of expression. Over the past decade, there has been a noticeable decline in freedom of the press. As per World Press Freedom Index 2023, Pakistan is on the rank of 157th out of 180 countries. Journalists, activists, and intellectuals face increasing censorship, harassment and violence. The government's crackdown on dissenting voice, including the use of draconian laws for silence critics has raised troubling questions about this fundamental right. Such activities not only diminishes individual's right of expression but also eliminates public ability to hold the government more accountable.

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Economic crisis and Brain drain

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Economic crisis in Pakistan is a major key factor of brain drain, creating an uncertainty environment among young professionals. Energy crisis is a significant cause of industry closures and unemployment. The national debt has ballooned to unsustainable levels, with public debt reaching over 80%, limiting government's ability to invest in critical infrastructure and social services. The unemployment is rampant, officially recorded at 6.3% as of 2023.

For many professionals, the economic prospects in Pakistan are bleak which force many to migrate to countries with more stable economic growth.

Therefore, economic woes are major causes of brain drain in Pakistan.