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## Introduction:

For decades, Pakistan saw a crucial partner in Afghanistan, with initial euphoria manifested in eagerly welcoming Taliban to join power in Kabul back in 2021. As the dust settled, however, the ground realities served Islamabad a stark reminder the nation had long shrouded in the mystery of expedience. Today, the tensions between Kabul and Islamabad have come out in the open, predominantly centered around hardline regime's affiliation with terrorist threatening Pakistan. Although Islamabad has used variety of carrot and stick policy prescriptions, things have remained grim. The answer is an attempt to analyse the current dynamics, ultimately culminating in outlining policy options.

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Kabul- Islamabad tensions  
Following 15<sup>th</sup> August  
2021: TTP, Safe havens

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TTP has emerged  
a victor of Kabul under  
Taliban. Afghan Taliban  
support it to evade defection  
of TTP cadres to ISKP.

UN Analytical  
Support and Sanction  
Monitoring Committee

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

2024 saw violent terrorist campaign reaching levels comparable to pre-2014

## Centre for Research and Security Studies (CRSS)

There is a serious uptick in violent activities by TTP, primarily targeting Security personnel

Pakistan is bleeding badly. There is uptick in militant activities throughout the country. It requires response.

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Potential of TTP-BLA  
nexus has further put  
Islamabad in tight spot

There is a thinking that  
such an alliance is possibly  
undermining Pakistan

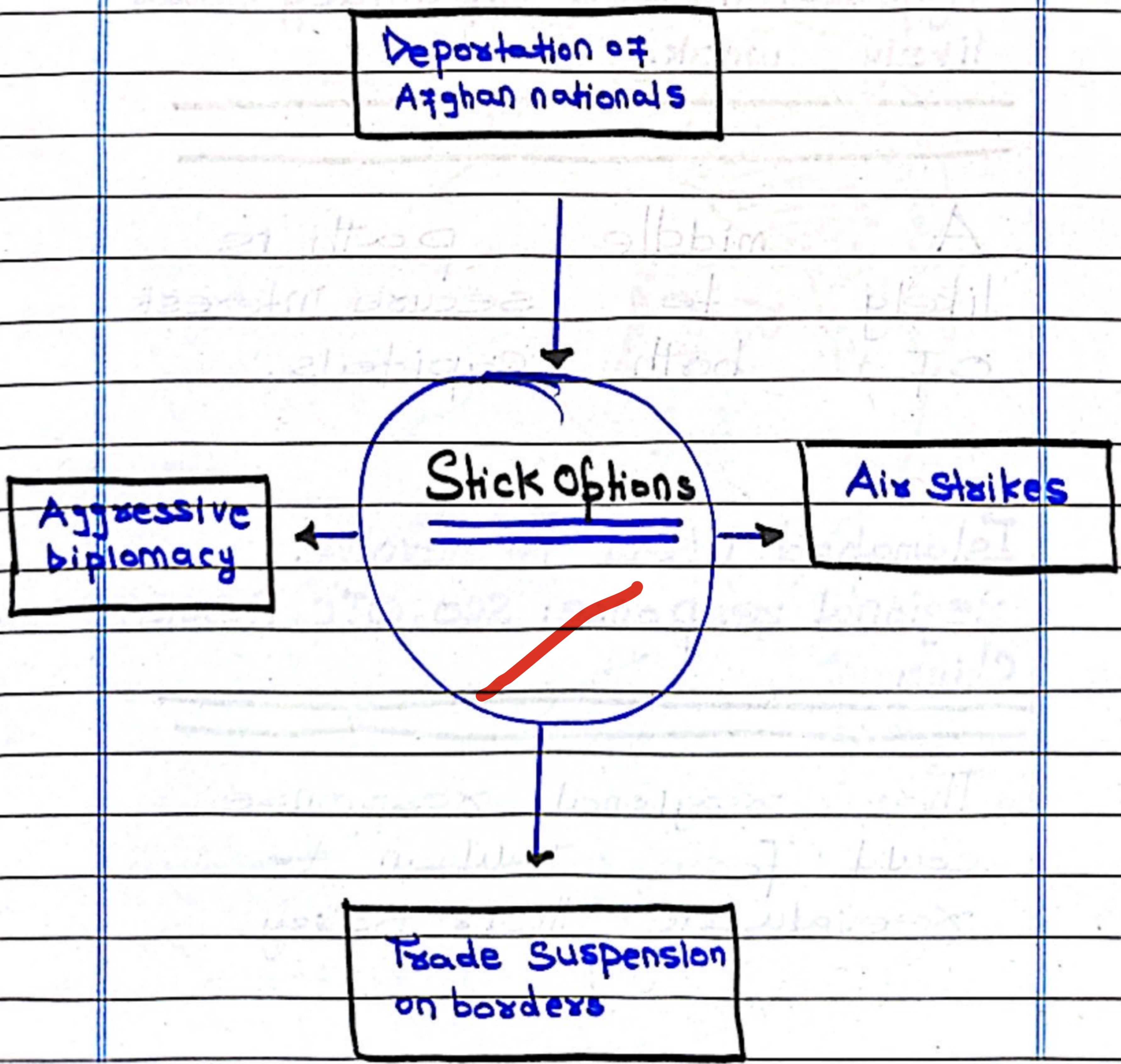
Taliban have so far remained  
unresponsive

It is worryingly disappointing  
to see Taliban colluding  
against Pakistan interests

Islamabad have undertaken  
coercive measures, but all in a  
vain

The coercive measures  
have failed to find  
articulate response.

# Coercive Measures of Islamabad aimed at winning in TTP and persuade Afghan Taliban



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AS Islamabad  
has failed to stir  
genuine response, below  
strategies could be  
given a thought

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A middle path between  
aggression and diplomacy would  
likely work.

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A middle path is  
likely to secure interest  
of both capitals.

Islamabad need to evolve  
regional response: SCO, OIC, Russia,  
China

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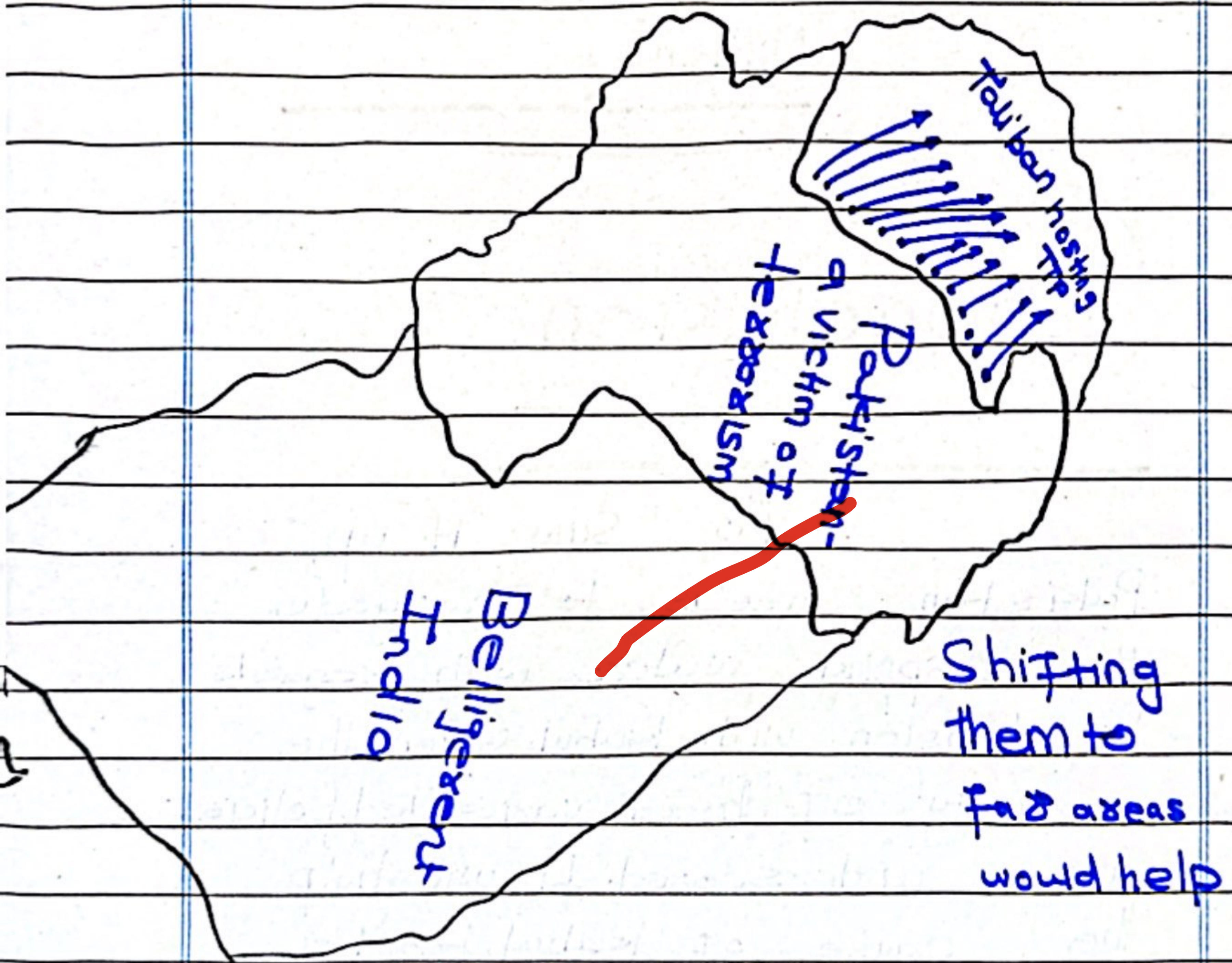
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The regional response  
could force Taliban to  
reevaluate their policy.

Pakistan Should develop a Plan to Shift the TTP cadres away from shared border

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Locating the TTP cadres is a good option, particularly in the short term interest of Islamabad.



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A multifaceted approach is required, which involves ideological combat and socioeconomic governance beside kinetic measure to browbeat terrorism and militancy.

Barak O Neil:  
Inside Terrorism and Militancy

Conclusion:

To sum it up, Pakistan needs to navigate the choppy waters, with regards to tension with Kabul. Given the enormity of threat, variegated policies are underscored. It will help the cause of Kabul, too, to reevaluate their ideological bonds. Ultimately, they also need international recognition.



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## Introduction

Stalin and Mao

had varied interpretation of Communism. Although both mounted challenges to Western order, 1960s saw a remarkable recalibration, turning Beijing closer to the US, possibly in the search of global recognition of One-China policy. The equation of Past has reversed to spark a debate following the Russian annexation of Ukraine.

Today, Moscow has gyrated closer than ever to Beijing, with the latter returning the reciprocity in an effort to put Washington on backfoot. The current fragmentation of liberal order has only added to their cause. The answer is an explanation to global geopolitical dynamics, pivoting around Washington, Beijing and Moscow.

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Russia- China growing economic, geostrategic and geopolitical bonhomie

China's silence over Ukraine manifest the partnership

China has maintained a silence over Russian aggression on Kyiv. This is viewed as a symbol of strong partnership between the two.

Moscow seems ready to overlook Indian apprehensions over the ties

Moscow is ready to sacrifice India at the altar of Chinese concerns. It is no mean feat for Beijing.

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Beijing has left no stone unturned in offsetting Sanction on Moscow: Buying Russian oil

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Buying oil from Russian Industry has enabled Moscow to stay afloat. Otherwise, crisis would have vastly hurt its all-oriented economy after host of sanctions.

Both are part of seemingly anti-west Bricks+

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The phenomenon of multiple multilateral organisation displaying anti-west leanings are intrinsically tied to the partnership of Russia and Beijing.

Today, Russia-China ties  
are closer than ever

## Age of Revolutions

Fareed Zakaria

How such a partnership  
is a potential challenge  
to the US?

Both capitals seek to  
overthrow West led order

This is their national  
orientations. The new  
governance model is what  
they have seen unity.

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Both are critic of  
US imperialism and expansion

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The US imperialism has  
unsettled both, particularly  
Russia. The China containment  
has forced Beijing closer to  
Washington

Moscow and Beijing want  
to overhaul the world's reliance  
on dollars

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The dollar disentanglement  
is their shared goal,  
in an attempt to avoid  
falling into sanction regime

In their worldview, Bretton Wood  
institutions are done for good

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Bretton Woods find no  
welcoming in both capitals.

The fragmentation of  
this liberal order has  
helped their cause

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The current state  
of transitioning order  
has helped the goals  
of Beijing and Moscow.  
Both are united to  
cash on the vulnerability  
of US and the Western  
empire.

The unravelling of  
liberal world order  
feeds into US anxieties,  
aiding Russia, China, Iran  
and North Korea

Stephen Walt  
Harvard University

# Limitations of Beijing and Moscow partnership

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Burden of history could drive a wedge

This poses a threat to the partnership. After all, trust is a rare commodity.

India's deft diplomacy may draw a grain bargain

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India would try hard to get Russia back to its team. And West will push it to do so.

Revanchist designs of  
Putin could turn off  
Xi Jinping

Steven A Cook  
Centre for Foreign  
Relations

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A favourable outcome of  
Ukraine crisis, engineered  
by Trump, to Moscow could  
keep a check

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A favourable outcome in the  
negotiation could put a check,  
particularly in the Trump  
administration.

Conclusion: In conclusion, Beijing  
and Moscow share a goal of putting  
to rest the US dominance for  
shared growth. Time will reveal  
how far they go in accomplishing this goal.  
Today, they remain in friendly terms,  
but self-interests may throw a gauntlet in  
longer run.