



Pakistan: Monitoring the Key Regional Powers

QUARTERLY MONITORING BRIEF



Report No. 2

April 8 – July 10, 2013

- • New Government in Pakistan aims to improve ties with India, despite setbacks over the quarter
- ↑ • Bilateral consultations with China aim to strengthen relations
- • Political transition threatens to delay Pakistan-Iran pipeline project

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CIDOB Sources of Tension in Afghanistan & Pakistan: A Regional Perspective (STAP RP)**Quarterly Reports on “Monitoring the Key Regional Powers”
Jinnah Institute, Islamabad****Introduction**

The purpose of this series of quarterly monitoring reports (2013) is to monitor and track the actions, public statements of five key STAP RP regional actors (India, Iran, Russia, China, Saudi Arabia) on Pakistan; the development of, and their participation in relevant international and regional discussion meetings, including the Istanbul Process, Heart of Asia, RECCA, SCO; the five key regional actors’ economic decisions and agreements, including, but not limited to, the energy and infrastructure sectors, which have implications for the identified sources of tension in Pakistan with regional implications (see CIDOB STAP RP Mapping Document at www.cidobafpakproject.com).

The Sources of Tension (SoTs) identified in the Mapping Document are used as reference points to determine relevance and are specifically monitored in Section 1.

The content includes short summaries by topic and by country, on actions taken, public statements made, regional meetings held and how these develop as mechanisms for dialogue, and the participation of the key regional powers in relevant regional and international events, as well as in subgroups of international fora, such as the Heart of Asia. Economic activity and investments by the key regional powers in Pakistan are also monitored, together with progress on, and shifting alliances in planned or actual economic projects. A short subsection on commentary from the media (in English) is included in each section.

Section 2 focuses on the key regional powers. Section 3 looks at regional dynamics and cross-cutting issues; and conclusions on the events of the past quarter are presented in Section 4. Section 5 presents publications by think tanks and research institutions in the region.

1. THE CONTEXT

Governance

- May 11: European Union Election Observation Mission Pakistan 2013 issues a [detailed preliminary statement](#) terming the election process in Pakistan 'competitive and improved despite militant violence and [procedural shortcomings](#)'.
- May 11: General elections are held in Pakistan, with a voter turnout of reportedly [55%](#). The [Pakistan Muslim League \(N\)](#) emerges as the leading political party and nominates Nawaz Sharif for Prime Minister's slot.

Social & Economic Issues

- July 9: [The IMF](#) enters talks regarding provision of \$5.3 billion for the next 3 years under Extended Fund Facility (EFF).
- June 19: [According to a report](#) by the UNHCR the [population of refugees](#) in Pakistan added up to almost 2.5 million at the end of 2012.
- June 17: A [social audit](#) conducted by the UNDP ranks security, terrorism and law and order in the top three concerns of citizens across Pakistan.
- June 13: A [report](#) released by a Pakistani think tank states that 148 terrorist attacks were reported between January 1 and May 15, highlighting 'failure of the state' to protect its people.
- June 12: The Government releases the [Economic Survey](#) of 2012-13 and the [Federal Budget 2013-2014](#), which are followed by [analyses](#) from policy stakeholders.
- June 10: With state-owned firms losing at least \$4.1 billion a year and \$5.1bn in "circular debt" leading to load shedding in the country, the government gears up to revive the [economy](#) and the [power sector](#).
- May 27: Former [Provincial Education Minister](#) states that after the extended militancy and violence, the literacy rate in Swat is 26 per cent, although it stood at 80 percent before 2005 in Swat valley.
- April 16: A [powerful earthquake](#) strikes Pakistan, with at least 30 people killed and 150 injured in Baluchistan.
- Monthly [price indices](#) for Pakistan are released by the Pakistan Bureau of Statistics

Conflict in Afghanistan

- July 4: Kabul and Islamabad trade [insults](#) over the war with the Taliban. The quarter saw Pakistan and Afghani forces [clash on the border](#), in addition to arguments regarding the [Durand Line](#) and [border management](#).
- June 22: [Afghan foreign ministry](#) asks Pakistan to release senior Taliban prisoners - a process which was [suspended in April](#) due to tensions between the countries.
- June 23: Pakistan [welcomes](#) the announcement of the opening of a Taliban office in Doha. Afghanistan's government also reaffirms [support](#) for possible dialogue, but responds negatively to how the group was allowed to raise its flag in Qatar and display other symbols.
- June 20: Back-channel talks involving Islamabad and Washington yield a [detailed roadmap](#) for steering negotiations with the Afghan Taliban.
- June 8: The top military commanders of [Pakistan, Afghanistan and the International Security Assistance Force](#) in Afghanistan reaffirm their commitment to securing peace in Afghanistan
- April 27: Foreign Secretary Jalil Abbas Jilani states that Pakistan is committed to providing its [fullest cooperation to Afghanistan](#) and will assist steering the country through the transition period and beyond.

Ethnicity and Sectarianism

- The US Commission on [International Religious Freedom](#) calls for the US to designate Pakistan as a "country of particular concern," in its report and that Pakistan represents the worst situation in the world for religious freedom.
- Two separate incidents of suicide bombing claim lives of members [Shi'a](#) community, killing 15 and leaving 22 injured, and [Hazara](#) community, killing 28 people and injuring 60.

Radicalisation

- [Media reports](#) suggest that US drone strikes provide a reason for the radicalisation of Pakistani youth.

Militancy

- June 23: Militants kill nine foreign mountaineers in an [unprecedented attack](#) in the Himalayas of Gilgit-Baltistan, Pakistani Taliban claimed responsibility.
- June 16: A shutter down strike is observed in Quetta against [twin suicide bombings](#) in the capital of Balochistan which targeted and killed 14 female students of a university and 11 in a follow up attack at a hospital.
- June 10: Pakistani [Taliban](#) withdraw their offer of talks with the Government of Pakistan in the wake of the killing of one of their leaders, Wali Ur Rehman in a recent drone attack.

2. THE REGIONAL PLAYERS

Who	The Source
INDIA	
1. Bilateral Trade	
<p>Actions Taken 11/6/2013 Power sector experts of Pakistan and India discuss an electricity trade deal.</p> <p>Public Statements 14/5/2013 Latest figures of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry India record a net increase of \$410 million in the volume of bilateral trade from April 2012 to March 2013.</p> <p>20/6/2013 Pakistan and India have to take further measures on a reciprocal basis to improve economic relations, states the Indian High Commissioner Sharat Sabharwal.</p> <p>Official Visit 12/6/2013 Two delegations of the Indian petroleum ministry visit Pakistan and hold discussions on the feasibility of gas and electricity supply to Pakistan from India.</p> <p>15/6/2013 Pakistan High Commissioner Salman Bashir meets a joint delegation of the SAARC and Indian Chambers of Commerce, and Indian Commerce and Industry Minister.</p> <p>Media Commentary An article examines the reasons for the hold up in Indo-Pak trade normalisation despite the desire for cooperation. Another explores the benefits of a free trade deal.</p> <p>9/5/2013 Illegal Indian goods worth \$4.2 billion are estimated to enter Pakistan annually according to a Pakistani think tank.</p>	<p>Mushtaq Ghuman is a reporter for Business Recorder</p> <p>Correspondent</p> <p>Express Tribune is a leading newspaper in Pakistan</p> <p>Correspondent</p> <p>The News is an English newspaper in Pakistan.</p> <p>Yudhvir Rana is a staff reporter for the Times of India</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Times of India is an English newspaper in India.</p> <p>Special Correspondent</p> <p>The Hindu</p> <p>Jesse Kaplan is an Op-ed Contributor</p> <p>Christian Science Monitor (CSM) is an international news organization that delivers global coverage</p> <p>SDPI is a think tank based in Islamabad</p>
2. New Government in Pakistan	
<p>Actions Taken 12/5/2013 Pakistan’s new Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif says he wants a peaceful resolution of the Kashmir conflict and hopes to bolster economic growth by improving trade relations with India.</p> <p>15/6/2013 Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sends his envoy, S.K. Lambah, to congratulate the new premier and commence a new relationship with Islamabad.</p> <p>Public Statement 7/6/2013 Despite Sharif’s positive overtures, senior party officials say no major foreign policy initiative towards India is likely to take place soon.</p> <p>Media Commentary Observers in India view election results with measured optimism.</p>	<p>Jon Boone, Jason Burke are reporters for the Guardian</p> <p>The Guardian is a daily English newspaper</p> <p>Vinay Kumar is a reporter for The Hindu</p> <p>The Hindu is an English language Indian daily newspaper headquartered at Chennai</p> <p>Umer Farooq is a reporter for Dawn</p> <p>Dawn is Pakistan’s oldest and one of the most widely read English newspapers</p> <p>Joanna Sugden is an editor at WSJ, Gardiner Harris is a correspondent</p> <p>Wall Street Journal and New York Times are American daily newspapers</p>
3. Status of Confidence Building Measures –Prisoners	

<p>Actions Taken 17/5/2013 Caretaker Prime Minister Mir Hazar Khoso releases 51 Indian fishermen.</p> <p>7/5/2013 An Indian prisoner is killed in a Pakistani jail by inmates, following which a Pakistani prisoner jailed in India dies after he is attacked by an inmate in an apparent revenge attack.</p> <p>1/7/2013 Pakistan and India exchange lists of prisoners lodged in each other's jails.</p> <p>Public Statement 2/5/2013 Singh states the perpetrators should be brought to justice for the "barbaric" attack on an Indian prisoner. Pakistan's Foreign Office asks for an international investigation.</p> <p>9/5/2013 New Delhi states that 535 Indian prisoners are in Pakistani jails, while 272 Pakistani prisoners are behind bars in India.</p>	<p>Zahid Gishkori is a reporter</p> <p>Special Reporter</p> <p>Special Reporter</p>	<p>The Express Tribune</p> <p>The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan</p> <p>The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan</p> <p>BBC News is a leading newspaper published in the UK.</p> <p>Al Jazeera</p>
<p>4. Bilateral Relations</p>		
<p>Actions Taken Over six separate incidents of attacks across the Line of Control kill one Indian officer, and wound 3 Indian officers. Attacks also kill a girl and injure five civilians in Pakistan.</p> <p>7/5/2013 The Pakistani government issues a travel advisory to its citizens in India.</p> <p>12/6/2013 The Pakistani Air Force states two Indian aircrafts violated Pakistan's airspace.</p> <p>19/6/2013 India gives Pakistan a written assurance to let its judicial commission cross-examine witnesses in the 26/11 Mumbai attacks case.</p> <p>Public Statement 4/6/2013 A lawmaker from India's ruling Congress party states that Pakistan's historic animosity toward New Delhi is fading and calls for his country to change its own attitudes.</p> <p>Pakistan High Commission terms an Indian politician's remark that Pakistan's spy agency was attempting to revive militancy as "unwarranted."</p> <p>Media Commentary 4/4/2013 An article states that a "nuclear competition" is under way between Pakistan and India.</p> <p>Track Two Diplomacy 5/7/2013 Pakistan brings forward Ambassador Shahryar Khan for conducting track-2 diplomacy in order to improve ties with India.</p>	<p>Staff Reporters</p> <p>Reporter</p> <p>Sandeep Joshi is a special correspondent for the Hindu</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Sandeep Joshi</p> <p>Michael Krepon is an international expert and contributor for NYT</p> <p>Anwer Abbas is a staff reporter</p>	<p>BBC News The Hindu is an English language Indian daily newspaper Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>Fox News</p> <p>The Hindu</p> <p>The News</p> <p>The Hindu</p> <p>The New York Times</p> <p>Pakistan Today is a Pakistani English language newspaper</p>



Who	The Source
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SAUDI ARABIA

1. Pakistani Diaspora in Saudi Arabia

<p>Actions Taken 7/4/2013 Saudi Arabia cracks down on illegal workers to create jobs for its citizens. Saudi Arabia has about 9.4 million foreign workers, mainly from Egypt, Yemen, India and Pakistan.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>The Nation is a Pakistan based English language daily</p>
<p>12/4/2013 Saudi authorities execute a Pakistani man convicted of committing rape and murder.</p>	<p>Web desk</p>	<p>The Express Tribune</p>
<p>Pakistan conveys its concerns to Saudi Arabia regarding the kingdom's new labour laws, which may lead to the deportation of expatriates, including Pakistanis, from the country.</p>	<p>Kamran Yousuf is a reporter for Express Tribune</p>	<p>Express Tribune</p>
<p>14/4/2013 The labour policy allows a grace period of three months to foreign labourers to correct their labour status. However, some may not benefit from the new rules.</p>	<p>Azam Khan is a reporter for Express Tribune</p>	<p>Express Tribune</p>
<p>The Pakistani mission starts a "job fair" for workers to find them work in order to stay in the Kingdom, in addition to issuing passports.</p>	<p>Web Desk</p>	<p>Express Tribune</p>
<p>16/4/2013 Saudi authorities identify and deport Pakistanis that go to the kingdom for pilgrimage and resort to earning "easy money" through begging.</p>	<p>Amraiz Khan is a senior staffer at The Nation</p>	<p>The Nation</p>
<p>5/6/2013 Saudi authorities behead a Pakistani convicted of smuggling heroin.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Dawn</p>
<p>Public Statements 12/4/2013 "We hope that we will be able to facilitate and protect the interests of Pakistanis in Saudi Arabia," states Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesperson.</p>	<p>Maqbool Malik is a reporter for the Nation</p>	<p>The Nation</p>
<p>30/5/2013 Pakistan's Foreign Office spokesperson states that the MoFA and its Embassy in Riyadh are working overtime to minimise the impact of 'Saudization drive' on Pakistani workers.</p>	<p>Official Communiqué</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
<p>Public Statement 8/6/2013 President of Pakistan's business community in Jeddah, states that Saudi officials are helping Pakistanis overcome difficulties and clarifies misperceptions regarding the issue.</p>	<p>Liaqat Toor is a reporter for the Pakistan Observer</p>	<p>Pakistan Observer</p>

Bilateral Relations

<p>Actions Taken 21/5/2013 The Saudi government minimises the number of visas for Umrah during coming Ramadan to 25,000 only compared to 125,000 the previous year.</p>	<p>Amraiz Khan</p>	<p>The Nation</p>
<p>23/5/2013 Saudi Arabia is expected to hand Pakistan an up to \$15bn bailout for its indebted energy sector.</p>	<p>Daniel Shane is a deputy editor at Arabian business.com</p>	<p>Arabian Business is a weekly business magazine focusing on the Middle East</p>
<p>Public Statement 26/4/2013</p>		

<p>Pakistan’s Ambassador to Saudi Arabia clarifies that Saudi Arabia will not play any role in the affairs regarding former President Pervez Musharraf declaring it as “Pakistan’s internal matter”.</p>	<p>Muhammad Saleh Zaafir is a senior correspondent</p>	<p>The News</p>
<p>13/5/2013 Saudi Ambassador in Pakistan states: “We are with Pakistani nation in every juncture as we believe Pakistan and Saudi people are one nation.”</p>	<p>Staff Report</p>	<p>Daily Messenger is a Pakistan based English language newspaper</p>
<p>26/5/2013 The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) welcomes Saudi Arabia’s offer to bail out Pakistan from its energy crisis.</p>	<p>Victor Mallet is the South Asia bureau chief at Financial Times</p>	<p>Financial Times is a world’s leading business news and information organisation</p>
<p>5/7/2013 “We want to make it clear that Saudi Arabia has nothing to do with domestic affairs in Pakistan,” Saudi envoy to Pakistan Dr. Abdul Aziz Ibrahim bin Saleh Al-Ghadeer.</p>	<p>Faiz Ahmed is a reporter at National Turk</p>	<p>National Turk is a Turkish newspaper</p>
<p>Media Commentary 16/5/2013 An article discusses the limitations to economic ties between Asian and Gulf states such as Indian-Pakistan rivalry and the risks involved in trading with Iran.</p>	<p>Jean-Loup Samaan is a researcher</p>	<p>Al-Monitor is a media site which provides perspectives from the Middle East</p>
<p>26/5/2013 An article states that economic changes test Pakistani-Saudi alliance despite loans given to Pakistan by Saudi Arabia.</p>	<p>Nick Ottens is a contributing analyst</p>	<p>Atlantic Sentinel is a transatlantic news and analysis website</p>



	Who	The Source
IRAN		
1. Bilateral Trade		
<p>Actions Taken 17/5/2013 Islamabad authorizes the export of 100,000 tons of wheat to Iran to settle dues for electricity supplied to Pakistan’s border areas.</p> <p>Public Statement 1/6/2013 Iranian Consul General based in Quetta states that Iran is keen on strengthening trade with Pakistan and that the visa fee has been reduced to further assist this process.</p>	<p>Syed Raza Hassan is a reporter</p> <p>Bari Baloch is a reporter at the Nation</p>	<p>Reuters is an international news agency headquartered in London</p> <p>The Nation</p>
2. Energy: Iran Pakistan Gas Pipeline		
<p>Actions Taken 13/6/2013 Despite media speculation, Pakistan’s government announces in its Annual Plan 2013-14 that it will implement the project, targeting the first flow of gas in December 2014.</p> <p>16/6/2013 The energy strategy unveiled by Pakistan envisions on-time completion of the Pak-Iran gas pipeline project.</p> <p>Public Statement 18/4/2013 An Iranian delegation of technical experts is due to visit and finalise the crucial Engineering and Procurement Contract (EPC) to commence work on Pakistan's end of the Pak-Iran pipeline.</p> <p>19/4/2013 “Since India has been motivated by Pakistan’s seriousness in building the pipeline, it is negotiating to join the project,” Iran Oil Ministry spokesman states.</p> <p>27/4/2013 Iranian and Indian oil ministers are due to discuss extension of a gas pipeline project which conveys Iranian gas reserves to Pakistan and further beyond to India.</p> <p>2/5/2013 “We are hoping to finalize the engineering contract with Iranian contractors to start the work without further delay,” a Pakistani official states, as an earlier visit was postponed.</p> <p>29/5/2013 The political transition in Pakistan is likely to delay the pipeline project between Iran and Pakistan beyond the year-end 2014 deadline, according to Pakistani officials.</p> <p>9/6/2013 Pakistan’s government moves to smother speculation about the pipeline with a minister asserting that the country needed the vital project.</p> <p>15/6/2013 Islamabad should expedite the Iran-Pakistan (IP) gas pipeline project or wait for impending financial punishments, an Iranian source warns.</p> <p>Media Commentary The IP pipeline, inaugurated against stiff U.S. opposition, has bolstered an emerging partnership between the two Muslim states against American domination, says a media</p>	<p>Zafar Bhutta is a reporter at the Express Tribune</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Maqbool Malik is a reporter at the Nation</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Malik Singleton is a reporter at International Business Times</p> <p>Kalbe Ali is a reporter working at the daily Dawn</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p> <p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Express Tribune The Express Tribune</p> <p>Press TV is an English news network owned by the state-owned media corporation of Islamic Republic of Iran</p> <p>The Nation</p> <p>Press TV</p> <p>Pakistan Today is a daily English newspaper in Pakistan</p> <p>United Press International is an international news agency</p> <p>International Business Times is an online global business newspaper based in New York City</p> <p>Dawn</p> <p>Pakistan Today</p> <p>UPI</p>

<p>commentator.</p> <p>An article explores the geopolitics at work among Iran, Pakistan, Syria and Qatar with regard to the pipeline.</p>	<p>Pepe Escobar is an investigative journalist</p>	<p>The Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG) is a research organization based in Montreal</p>
<p>3. Bilateral Relations</p>		
<p>Actions Taken</p>		
<p>18/4/2013 Pakistani political leaders and senior military officials stress on the need for a strong relationship between Iran and Pakistan.</p>	<p>Web Desk</p>	<p>Terminal X is a Pakistan based forum with intelligence and geopolitical news</p>
<p>6/6/2013 Iranian Foreign Ministry Spokesman expresses confidence that ties would be further strengthened in various fields during the new government's tenure.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Press TV</p>
<p>17/6/2013 Pakistan attends the first Maritime Cooperation Meeting for Strengthening Regional and Bi-Regional ties on combating maritime drug-trafficking, held in Tehran.</p>	<p>Arash Khalatbari is a reporter with Press TV</p>	<p>Press TV</p>
<p>Agreements signed</p>		
<p>4/6/2013 Pakistan and Iran sign an agreement for strengthening maritime cooperation.</p>	<p>Parvez Jabri is a reporter with Business Recorder</p>	<p>Business Recorder</p>



CHINA

Who The Source

1. Bilateral Relations

Actions Taken

8/5/2013

Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Mr. Liu Jian calls on President Asif Ali Zardari to discuss matters relating to [bilateral relations](#) and mutual cooperation.

Staff Reporter

The Nation

23/5/2013

Pakistan and China decide to [enhance practical cooperation](#) in all sectors and strengthen coordination on international and regional issues such as stability in Afghanistan.

Joint Statement by Chinese and Pakistan governments

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

5/6/2013

Chinese and Pakistani governments release a [document](#) on cooperation during Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to China.

Du Mingming is an editor at People's Daily

People's Daily is a daily newspaper in China

Official Visit

2/4/2013

Pakistan and China resumed trade and traffic on the [Karakoram Highway](#), through the early reopening of Khunjerab Pass on April 1st instead of May 1st, as was past practice.

Staff Reporter

The Nation

4/4/2013

China and Pakistan hold the second round of [bilateral consultation](#) on the regional situation including Afghanistan in Beijing.

Official Communiqué

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

15/4/2013

China and Pakistan hold the 7th round of [Pakistan-China](#) bilateral consultations in Beijing.

Official Communiqué

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

22/5/2013

Mr. Li Keqiang, Premier of the State Council of China arrives on a [two-day visit](#) to Pakistan.

Official Communiqué

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

5/7/2013

The Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif pays an [official visit](#) to China.

Official Communiqué

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Agreements signed

6/7/2013

China and Pakistan sign an agreement on the blueprint for a [transport project](#) linking northwestern China to the Arabian Sea.

Wu Zhiyi is a reporter for China Daily

China Daily is an English language newspaper published in China

7/7/2013

Agreements are signed for the construction of the motorway from Karachi to Lahore as well as the [Khashgar-Gwadar project](#).

Staff Reporter

The Nation

Public Statements

18/4/2013

Chinese Ambassador in Pakistan Liu Jian states that [Pakistan and China](#) have very strong strategic and long-term relations.

Asim Qadeer Rana is a reporter at The Nation

The Nation

5/7/2013

The legislatures of China and Pakistan should step up contact and exchanges to contribute to the development of bilateral links, [China's top](#) legislator, Zhang Deijiang, stated.

Deng Shasha is an editor at Xinhua News

Xinhua News is the official press agency of China

<p>6/7/2013 Pakistan's Federal Minister for Planning and Development announces that Pakistan and China have made new advances for enhancing their economic relationship.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Express Tribune</p>
<p>Media Commentary 9/7/2013 An article explores the significance of Nawaz Sharif's visit to China.</p>	<p>Javed Malik is a writer for Pakistan Today</p>	<p>Pakistan Today</p>
<p>2. Cooperation in Energy and Economy</p>		
<p>Actions Taken</p>		
<p>9/5/2013 China urges Pakistan to facilitate Chinese companies involved in energy cooperation at the Pak-China Joint Energy Working Group meeting.</p>	<p>Zeeshan Javed is a reporter at the Daily Times</p>	<p>Daily Times is a leading English news source in Pakistan</p>
<p>22/5/2013 China brushes aside Indian concerns about its cooperation with Pakistan in the field of civilian nuclear energy.</p>	<p>Shaiq Hussain writes for Pakistan Today</p>	<p>Pakistan Today</p>
<p>Agreements Signed</p>		
<p>22/5/2013 During the Chinese Premier's two-day visit to Pakistan in May, a total of 11 agreements are signed and the visiting business delegation signs procurement agreements worth \$450 million.</p>	<p>Official Communiqué</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
<p>5/7/2013 Pakistan and China sign eight documents of cooperation pertaining to different economic sectors, including a pact to pertaining to an \$18 billion project to build 200km tunnels for Pakistan-China economic corridor, and another to facilitate cross-border training on textiles, flood relief, and eradication of Polio.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>The Nation</p>
<p>Public Statements</p>		
<p>23/5/2013 Li Keqiang addresses Pakistan's Senate and vows to support Pakistan's sovereignty and integrity. He states the two countries should take advantage of free trade agreements.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Dawn</p>
<p>23/5/2013 China and Pakistan should make cooperation on power generation a priority, Chinese Premier Li Keqiang states.</p>	<p>Nick Macfie is a reporter for Reuters</p>	<p>Reuters</p>
<p>6/7/2013 The Special Assistant to Prime Minister on foreign affairs states that Sharif's visit will be beneficial for Pakistan in improving its economy and generating economic activities.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Pakistan Today</p>
<p>Media Commentary</p>		
<p>19/4/2013 An article asserts that China's nuclear engagement with Pakistan potentially remains the most destabilising factor in the global management of nuclear weapons technology.</p>	<p>Harsh V. Pant writes for newspapers including WSJ and Indian Express</p>	<p>Japan Times is an English language newspaper based in Japan</p>

Who The Source

RUSSIA

1. Bilateral Relations

Actions Taken

25/6/2013

Yuri Yu Petrushchik, Head of Financial Institutions and International Business Division at [Bank of Russia](#), states that his bank is endeavouring to start operations in Pakistan.

Staff Reporter

The News is a leading newspaper in Pakistan

25/4/2013

The 8th meeting of the [Pakistan-Russia Consultative Group](#) on Strategic Stability is held focusing on disarmament, non-proliferation, arms control and strategic stability.

Official Communiqué

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Official Visit

16/4/2013

[Commander-in-Chief](#) of the Russian Air Force, Lieutenant-General Viktor Bondarev pays a working visit to Pakistan.

Itar-Tass writes for Russia & India Report

Russia & India Report is the Indian edition of Russia Beyond the Headlines

Public Statement

12/4/2013

"We attach high importance to our relations with Russia," [Foreign Office Spokes person](#) Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhry states.

Maqbool Malik

The Nation

3/5/2013

"We in Russia consider Pakistan as a confident, responsible and well integrated member of the international community" states the Russian Consul General [Andrey Demidov](#).

[Salahud-din-Haider](#) is a journalist in Pakistan

Pakistan Observer

18/6/2013

[Andrey Demidov](#) states that "our present political relations with Pakistan are excellent."

[Salahud-din-Haider](#)

Terminal X

Media Commentary

7/7/2013

[Media report](#) suggests that while Russia may have vowed not to sell arms to Pakistan, Pakistan is getting some key Russian military equipment through China.

[N C Bipindra](#) writes for Indian Express

Indian Express is a daily newspaper published by Indian Express Group

Track Two Diplomacy

17/5/2013

An [article](#) explores how Track 2 diplomacy can enable Pakistan and Russia to reconstruct relationship on grounds of mutual benefit in the absence of Track I or official diplomacy.

[Mehreen Baloch](#) writes for News Pakistan

News Pakistan is an online newspaper in Pakistan

2. Bilateral Trade

Public Statements

7/4/2013

Russia is a great potential market for Pakistani products states the President of FPCCI at a meeting with the [Trade Representative](#) of Russia.

Staff Reporter

Daily Times

26/4/2013

[Trade turnover](#) between Russia and Pakistan demonstrated a positive growth in 2012, with an amount of \$542 million, according to the Russian Deputy Trade Representative.

Recorder Report

Business Recorder

3. REGIONAL DYNAMICS AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

Multiple tracks of dialogue have been active over the last quarter, aiming to mitigate regional conflict, address governance deficits and create new avenues for bilateral and multilateral cooperation.

1. Bilateral Talks & Multi-Track Diplomacy

- i. July 4-5: **The Third Islamabad Dialogue** was convened by Jinnah Institute and New Delhi's Center for Dialogue and Reconciliation. The Dialogue aimed to bring senior interlocutors from both sides, including law makers and media persons, to discuss outstanding strategic issues as well as new avenues of cooperation and dialogue.
- ii. May 17-19: Delegations from the U.S, India and Japan met for the **tenth U.S.-Japan-India Track Two Strategic Dialogue** in Tokyo. The delegates met with Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and other senior government officials responsible for foreign affairs, defense, energy and economic strategy.

2. Multilateral Fora

- iii. April 8: Pakistan participated in the **Third Review Conference on Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)** held at the Hague. The conference concluded with the adoption of a two-part **document** that confirms the "unequivocal commitment" of the States Parties to the global chemical weapons ban, and a comprehensive review of CWC implementation since the last Review Conference.
- iv. April 14: **China, Russia and Pakistan** held a **trilateral dialogue** on Afghanistan in Beijing in which senior officials from exchanged views on the situation in Afghanistan, as well as regional and international cooperation. They agreed to support the "**Afghan-led, Afghan-owned**" reconciliation and the Shanghai cooperation Organization in playing a greater role in the peace process. In addition, they discussed increased cooperation on counter-terrorism and anti-narcotics efforts within the framework of the Istanbul Process.
- v. April 15: The Third Session of **Pakistan-South Africa Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation** was held in Islamabad, led by officials from the Foreign Office. The meeting discussed cooperation in trade, industry, engineering, energy, agriculture, health and education.
- vi. April 24: A **Trilateral Core Group meeting** between **Pakistan, Afghanistan and the United States** was held in Brussels, attended by Afghan President Hamid Karzai, Secretary of State John Kerry and Pakistan Chief of Army Staff General Ashfaq Parvez Kayani. The officials emphasised that a stable Afghanistan is vital for economic development and agreed to pursue political, security and economic cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- vii. April 26: The **third "Heart of Asia" Ministerial Conference** of the **Istanbul Process** was held in Almaty, Kazakhstan. The Conference was attended by high-level delegations from the 'Heart of Asia' countries, supporting countries, international as well as regional organisations. Political cooperation, security and combating terrorism, narcotics, organised crime, internally displaced communities and refugees were discussed at the conference.
- viii. May 1: The second round of **bilateral consultations** between **Pakistan and the United Kingdom** on arms control, non-proliferation and disarmament was held in London, which focused on non-proliferation, peaceful uses of nuclear technology, regional security and strategic stability.
- ix. May 8-9: **The National Focal Points Meeting on Drug Control Matters** was organised by the **Economic Cooperation Organization's** Drug and Organized Crime Coordination Unit in Tehran. The meeting was

- attended by delegates from Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey, as well as the ECO Secretary General. The meeting deliberated upon strategies of drug control in the ECO region.
- x. May 15: A meeting of the [International Contact Group](#) on Afghanistan and Pakistan (ICG) – comprising of 50 countries was held in Germany. Participants reaffirmed their long-term commitment to supporting Afghanistan as it undergoes its political and security transitions.
 - xi. June 1: The [5th round](#) of the **US-Pakistan Security, Strategic Stability, and Nonproliferation (SSS&NP) Working Group** in Washington was co-chaired by Acting Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Rose Gottemoeller and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Geneva, Ambassador Zamir Akram. The respective delegations discussed bilateral and multilateral concerns, including international efforts to enhance nuclear security and peaceful applications of nuclear energy; nonproliferation challenges; multilateral regimes on chemical and biological weapons; export controls; and regional stability.
 - xii. June 4: Pakistan was re-elected as member of the [United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination](#) (CERD) at the twenty-fifth meeting of **States Parties of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination**, in New York. The Committee, comprising 18 independent experts, monitors implementation of the Convention by its States parties.
 - xiii. June 18: Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Masood Khan, while speaking at the [Security Council debate on Children and Armed Conflict](#), stated that drone strikes radicalise disaffected communities and swell recruitment and support for terrorists, as well as that urgent negotiations are needed to address drone issue.
 - xiv. June 26: **Shanghai Cooperation Organization** (SCO) [defense chiefs](#) pledged to enhance coordination in maintaining regional peace and fighting terrorism and organised crime. The pledge came in a communique released after a one-day meeting between defense officials from China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The communique sought coordinated efforts in addressing the challenges of separatism, extremism and drug-trafficking.
 - xv. 27 June – 2 July: The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) [Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#) and a series of [related meetings](#) between dialogue partners were held in Brunei. The Foreign Minister's Meeting was followed by [Post Ministerial Conference](#), the [20th ASEAN Regional Forum](#) and the Third East Asia Summit Foreign Ministers' Meeting. The discussions pertained to regional cooperation and integration, security, management of maritime disputes, creating a Roadmap for an ASEAN community and ASEAN's external relations.
 - xvi. July 3: The first [Senior Officials' international meeting](#) on the **Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework** was held in Kabul and reviewed progress made towards achieving Framework objectives. The meeting was co-chaired by Afghan Foreign Minister Dr. Zalmi Rassoul, Finance Minister Dr. Omar Zakhilwal and UN Secretary General's Special Representative Jan Kubis. Senior officials from 40 donor countries and 8 international development organisations, members of the civil society and private sector representatives also participated in the Meeting.

4. SUMMARY OF TRENDS FOR THE QUARTER

The interim government and the Election Commission of Pakistan prepared for and carried out Pakistan's general elections. Amid an upsurge in violence against political parties, the Pakistan Muslim League –Nawaz (PML-N) emerged as the leading party, nominating Mian Nawaz Sharif as the Prime Minister. The new government was immediately confronted by several challenges, including a recalibration of national security policy as well as addressing economic grievances. Resolving the energy crisis, which has now been a serious predicament for Pakistan's economy, was cited to be among the PML-N's top priorities.

The commitment to resolve the energy crisis can be appreciated by the newly signed agreements with China that enhance bilateral economic cooperation; reaching out to India regarding an electricity trade deal; and positive movement on the Iran Pakistan pipeline, despite the threat of Western sanctions. While Pakistan's domestic political transition delayed the construction of the pipeline and evoked some criticism from officials in Tehran, the Nawaz government announced the completion of the project by December 2014 in its annual budget.

The quarter witnessed high level visits between the heads of states of Pakistan and China, each concluding with a large number of Memorandums of Understanding encompassing a wide range of sectors. Most of these are aimed at improving economic cooperation between both countries. Transport projects may facilitate and increase levels of trade between them, leading to the construction of an economic corridor. China and Pakistan's cooperation with regard to civil nuclear energy has been viewed with caution, particularly by India. A report by the [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute](#) stated that the three nuclear powers — China, India and Pakistan — have increased their arsenals over the past year, due to a rise in tension in the region.

The Prime Minister of Pakistan upon assuming his office stated that relations with India would be improved; promising to start afresh on efforts that had been stalled when his previous government ended. Following this, the government made several positive overtures towards the neighbouring country. These efforts were met with cautious optimism both at home and in India, with some commentators asserting that Nawaz's room for foreign policy manoeuvre was limited. The quarter also saw ceasefire violations across the Line of Control and 'tit for tat' murders of Pakistani and Indian prisoners held in jails across the border. The incidents created a public outcry at the negligence with which the governments treated each other's prisoners.

Relations with Saudi Arabia evoked new interest in the media, especially as the Saudi government announced a bailout package for Pakistan's energy sector. Saudi officials also clarified that they have no role to play in Pakistan's internal affairs.

Meanwhile, Pakistan-Afghanistan relations were beset with clashes at the border, with Islamabad and Kabul exchanging barbs over lack of confidence and distrust. Officials from the Foreign Office reaffirmed support for the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned reconciliation process and international media reports noted Pakistan's positive role in talks with the Taliban.

5. PUBLICATIONS FROM THE REGION

Governance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, 'Karachi, MQM's Decline, PTI's Ascendancy?', June 17 Fata Research Center, 'Electoral Violence: Nature, Sources, Forces and Implications', June European Union Election Observation Mission Pakistan 2013, 'A competitive and improved election process in Pakistan despite militant violence and procedural shortcomings', May 13 Spearhead Research, 'Post Elections 2013: change in Pakistan?', May 13 Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, 'Pakistan Elections 2013: A Preliminary Analysis', May 13 Pew Research Center, 'On Eve of Elections, a Dismal Public Mood in Pakistan', May 07 Center for Research and Security Studies, 'Blasphemy Laws in Pakistan', April
Social & Economic Issues
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, 'Pakistan's Power Crisis: A Bridge Too Far?', June 06 Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies, 'Indo-Pak: Animosity Prison-ified', May 08
Ethnicity and Sectarianism
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jinnah Institute, 'Extremism Watch: Mapping Conflict Trends in Pakistan 2011-2012'
Militancy
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observer Research Foundation, 'LeT: Future Threats and Counter Measures', May 31
Regional Dynamics
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Asia Analysis Group, 'India's Pakistan Policy 2004-2013 Spins on its Head', May 13 Center for Strategic and International Studies, 'Red Lines, Deadlines, and Thinking the Unthinkable: India Pakistan, Iran, North Korea, and China', April 16 Business Recorder, 'Pakistan, Russia to hold talks on strategic issues on April 15', April 12 Pakistan-China Institute, 'Deepening Banking Cooperation of Pakistan and China', April 09
Conflict in Afghanistan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Observer Research Foundation, 'Afghanistan: Anxiety over possible economic collapse and Taliban takeover', May 28 Center for Conflict and Peace Studies, 'Weighing the Costs of the BSA in the Domestic and Neighborhood Contexts (Part II)', May 14 Center for Conflict and Peace Studies, 'Governance Issues in Afghanistan', May 14