

**Sources of  
Tension in  
Afghanistan  
and Pakistan**

A Regional  
Perspective



# Pakistan: Monitoring the Key Regional Powers

Quarterly Monitoring Brief

**Report No. 2:  
April 1 to June 30, 2014**



Border insecurity continued to strain  
Pak-Afghan ties



Prime minister's visit to Iran helped  
reduce trust deficit



Albeit mutual goodwill gestures, halt in  
Indo-Pak peace process lingered



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

*The purpose of this series of quarterly monitoring reports (2014) is to monitor and track the actions as well as 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](http://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 forums, 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

- April 2, 2014: [Balochistan peace talks under way](#), claimed Lt. Gen. Nasser Khan Janjua.
- May 1, 2014: [Pakistan would not allow its land to be used against any country](#), says Pakistani prime minister.
- June 15, 2014: [Pakistan launched a major military offensive “Zarb-e-Azb”](#) against local and foreign militants in North Waziristan tribal agency of the Federally Administered Tribal areas (FATA).

### Social & Economic Issues

- May 17, 2014: Pakistan’s [exports fell by 10 percent](#) in April despite the preferential market access to the European market.
- May 23, 2014: [Sikh community storms Parliament](#) to protest against alleged desecration of their holy books.
- June 1, 2014: The [cultural diversity of the country is under threat](#) and religious minorities and various ethnic communities are being denied rights and identity: said participants of a seminar arranged by the Coalition for Rights of Minorities (CRM).
- June 3, 2014: [The federal cabinet approved the federal budget for the year 2014-15, with a total outlay of PKR 945 trillion](#).
- June 27, 2014: [IMF releases \\$555.9 million loan tranche](#) for Pakistan.
- June 30, 2014: [Aid agencies step up relief efforts as the number of internally displaced persons \(IDPs\) from North Waziristan due to the ongoing military operation there continues to rise](#).
- June 30, 2014: Pakistan’s National Disaster Management Authority says as many as [466,287 IDPs from North Waziristan were registered until June 29, 2014](#).

### Conflict in Afghanistan

- April 4, 2014: The Pak-Afghan border at [friendship gate in Chaman was closed a day before the Afghan presidential elections](#) were scheduled to take place.
- May 6, 2014: [Pakistan allowed Afghanistan to use its air space](#) for shipment of military equipment to Kabul.
- May 31, 2014: Around [200 militants from Afghanistan attacked Pakistani military border posts](#) in Bajaur tribal agency.
- May 26, 2014: Afghan President [Hamid Karzai accused Lashkar-i-Taiba](#)—a Pakistan-based Kashmiri rebel group—[of being behind the attack on an Indian diplomatic mission](#) in Afghanistan.
- June 2, 2014: Afghanistan said [it was pulling out of security talks scheduled to be held in Islamabad on June 4](#).
- June 08, 2014: [Afghanistan accused “foreign intelligence services” of being behind an attack targeting presidential front-runner Abdullah Abdullah](#) that killed 12 people, in an implicit reference to Pakistan.
- June 17, 2014: After Pakistan launched a major military operation against militants in North Waziristan, [Pakistani prime minister urged Afghan President Hamid Karzai to help stop militants escape into Afghanistan](#).

### Ethnicity & Sectarianism<sup>1</sup>

- April 9, 2014: Three [students of a Sunni seminary were killed](#) in Karachi.
- April 23, 2014: [A leader of Majlis Wahdatul Muslimeen, a Shia religious-political organization, Syed Ahsan Kabeer Zaidi was shot dead](#) by sectarian militants in Faisalabad.
- May 7, 2014: Rashid Rehman, a human rights activist and [lawyer of a blasphemy accused, was shot dead in Multan](#).
- May 16, 2014: A [blasphemy accused Ahmadi old man was assassinated](#) in police custody by a young

<sup>1</sup> Also includes incidents of communal or faith-based violence.

boy in Sheikhpura district of Punjab.

- June 6, 2014: A leader of *Ahle Sunnat Wal Jamaat*, a Sunni sectarian organization, [Mufti Shukurallah was injured and his brother killed in a sectarian-related terrorist attack](#) in Mach, Balochistan.
- June 8, 2014: [23 Shia pilgrims were killed in bomb explosions and firing incidents](#) in Taftan tehsil of Balochistan.
- June 14, 2014: [Minority MPA in Balochistan Assembly Handery Masieh was reportedly shot dead](#) by his body guard in Quetta.

### **Militancy**

- April 8, 2014: [A blast in a train at Balochistan's Sibi railway station killed 16 persons](#), including two women and four children, and wounded 40 others.
- April 9, 2014: A bomb explosion at a major fruit and vegetable market [in Islamabad claimed the lives of 24 people and injured 122](#).
- June 04, 2014: [Two military officers were among five people killed when a Pakistani Taliban suicide bomber hit their twin cabin vehicle on Fateh Jang road near Rawalpindi](#), Director-General Inter-Services Public Relations (ISPR) Asim Bajwa said.
- June 09, 2014: [Heavily armed militants laid siege to Jinnah International Airport's old terminal in Karachi](#). The attack was thwarted by army and other security forces during an operation which lasted about five hours killing 55 people including 10 militants.
- June 24, 2014: [Militants fired at the Pakistan International Airlines \(PIA\) Boeing PK-756 as it came in to land at Peshawar's Bacha Khan airport](#) killing a woman and injuring two flight stewards on board.

## 2. THE REGIONAL POWERS



### INDIA

#### 1. Bilateral Relations

##### Public Statements

	Who	The Source
- April 11, 2014: Pakistan says it is <a href="#">waiting for new Indian government to restart composite dialogue</a> .	Mariana Baabar	The News
- April 18, 2014: <a href="#">Modi's inflammatory rhetoric on the campaign trail</a> should not worry Pakistan, say representatives of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).	Diptendu Dutta	News Week Pakistan
- April 24, 2014: Pakistan said it was "encouraged" by Modi's comments stressing <a href="#">cooperation with foreign governments if he was elected prime minister</a> .	AFP	The Nation
- May 2, 2014: <a href="#">The BJP slammed the opinion expressed by Pakistan's Interior Minister</a> that Modi's elevation as prime minister could destabilize the region.	Staff Reporter	Dawn
- May 29, 2014: Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs Sartaj Aziz said <a href="#">India dialogue may be restructured</a> .	Baqqir Sajjad Syed	Dawn
- June 25, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan and India have revived back-channel talks</a> , Pakistan's Ambassador to the U.S. Jalil Abbas Jilani said.	Anwar Iqbal	Dawn

##### Media Commentary

- April 7, 2014: The <a href="#">BJP manifesto leaves some room</a> for its prime ministerial candidate <a href="#">Narendra Modi in the conduct of India's relations with Pakistan</a> .	C. Raja Mohan	Indian Express
- April 12, 2014: <a href="#">India's Faulty Approach towards Pakistan</a>	Sajjad Shaukat	Kashmir Watch
- May 22, 2014: <a href="#">Eyes on Modi's India</a> .	I.A. Rehman	Dawn
- May 25, 2014: <a href="#">Engaging Modi</a> .	Munir Akram	Dawn
- May 27, 2014: <a href="#">Modi and Sharif must move quickly and come up with a peace plan</a> .	Sherry Rehman	Times of India
- June 3, 2014: <a href="#">The visit and after</a> .	Maleeha Lodhi	The News
- June 8, 2014: India-Pak relations: <a href="#">time for a new chapter</a>	Kuldip Nayer	Pakistan Today
- June 18, 2014: <a href="#">Relations with India – the next five years</a> .	Ayesha Siddiq	Express Tribune

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- June 25, 2014: <a href="#">India-Pakistan cooperation and Afghanistan beyond 2014.</a></li> </ul>	Atia Kazmi	Express Tribune
<b>Actions Taken</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 1, 2014: <a href="#">India</a> has signed an agreement under which it will pay Russia <a href="#">to supply arms and equipment to the Afghan military.</a></li> </ul>	Staff Reporter	Reuters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 2, 2014: Pakistan’s Foreign Office summoned Indian Deputy High Commissioner and lodged <a href="#">a strong protest over denial of visas to 500 Pakistani pilgrims.</a></li> </ul>	Staff Reporter	The News
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 8, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan asked the Indian government to beef up security of its high commission in New Delhi</a> after it received threatening letters.</li> </ul>	Staff Reporter	Express Tribune
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 14, 2014: <a href="#">Indian journalists told in writing to leave Pakistan</a> within a week.</li> </ul>	Reuters	Dawn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 17, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistani prime minister congratulated Narendra Modi</a> on his party’s win in Indian elections and invited him to visit Pakistan.</li> </ul>	Baqir Sajjad Syed	Dawn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 27, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan and India agreed to restore peace talks</a> and enhance trade contacts in a meeting between the prime ministers of the two countries in New Delhi.</li> </ul>	Staff Reporter	The News
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- June 19, 2014: <a href="#">Do not sell Mi-35 attack helicopters to Pakistan</a>, India tells Russia.</li> </ul>	Staff Reporter	Pakistan Today

**2. Status of Confidence Building Measures**

<b>Public Statements</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 15, 2014: <a href="#">Army not opposed to the grant of MFN status to India</a>, says Pakistan’s Commerce Minister Khurram Dastgir Khan.</li> </ul>	Anwar Iqbal	Dawn
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 26, 2014: <a href="#">India visit to help settle disputes</a>, says Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.</li> </ul>	News Desk	The News
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 27, 2014: India's newly elected premier Narendra <a href="#">Modi says he will visit Pakistan.</a></li> </ul>	Agencies	Dawn
<b>Actions Taken</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 22, 2014: The state transport department of India's northern province rejoiced over the <a href="#">faster clearance of transit permits for the bus service to Pakistan-occupied Kashmir.</a></li> </ul>	Reuters	Voice of America
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 25, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan releases scores of Indian fishermen as goodwill gesture</a> ahead of swearing-in</li> </ul>	Agencies	Al-Jazeera

<p>ceremony of Narendra Modi as prime minister</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 31, 2014: <a href="#">India releases 37 Pakistani prisoners including 32 fishermen.</a></li> <li>- June 15, 2014: <a href="#">Indian delegation in Pakistan to bolster the Indo-Pak peace dialogue.</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Media Commentary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 14, 2014: <a href="#">Why Trade with India is in our interest.</a></li> <li>- April 15, 2014: Chance for <a href="#">‘Indo-Pak literati to foster friendly ties’.</a></li> </ul>	<p>Staff Reporter      Dawn</p> <p>Staff Reporter      Kashmir Watch</p> <p>Shakeel Ahmed Ramay      Express Tribune</p> <p>Staff Reporter      Dawn</p>
<p><b>3. Kashmir: Violence along the Line of Control (LoC)</b></p>	
<p><b>Actions Taken</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 25, 2014: Pakistan’s Director-General of Military Operations (<a href="#">DGMO</a>) <a href="#">called up his Indian counterpart to discuss the ceasefire violations along the LoC.</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Public Statements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 15, 2014: Kashmiri leader Farooq Abdullah said <a href="#">bilateral cooperation between Pakistan and India is imperative for lasting peace in Jammu and Kashmir.</a></li> <li>- April 15, 2014: BJP leader Rajnath Singh said his <a href="#">party will give free hand to army to tackle Pakistan’s anti-India activities.</a></li> <li>- May 01, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistani army chief said Kashmir is the jugular vein of Pakistan</a> and the issue should be resolved in accordance with aspirations of Kashmiri people and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions.</li> <li>- June 16, 2014: Indian Defence Minister Arun Jaitley said <a href="#">no talks with Pakistan amid ceasefire violations.</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Media Commentary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 04, 2014: <a href="#">Kashmir: third party mediation.</a></li> <li>- June 20, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistani and Indian armies should maintain a certain distance from their respective borders.</a></li> </ul>	<p>News Room      IRNA</p> <p>Staff Reporter      Zee News</p> <p>Staff Reporter      Rising Kashmir</p> <p>Staff Reporter      The News</p> <p>Staff Correspondent      Dawn</p> <p>Hussain H Zaidi,      The News</p> <p>Staff Reporter      Dawn</p>





**IRAN**

**Who**

**The Source**

**1. Energy: Iran Pakistan Gas Pipeline**

**Public Statements**

- |  |               |                  |
|--|---------------|------------------|
| - April 23, 2014: Pakistan’s Petroleum Minister Shahid Khaqan Abbasi said <a href="#">Pakistan is not under foreign pressure for giving up the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline.</a> | News Reporter | Fars News Agency |
| - May 15, 2014: <a href="#">Iran and Pakistan keen to implement the gas pipeline project.</a> says Pakistani petroleum minister.   | Khaleeq Kiani | Dawn             |

**Actions Taken**

- |   |              |                 |
|---|--------------|-----------------|
| - May 10, 2014: Pakistani <a href="#">government issued a ‘force majeure and excusing event notice’ in connection with the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline</a> as a precaution to stave off hefty penalties. | Zafar Bhutta | Express Tribune |
| - May 12, 2014: Pakistani Prime Minister <a href="#">Nawaz Sharif and Iranian President Hassan Rouhani agreed to continue with the Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline</a> project.                              | AFP and APP  | Dawn            |
| - May 12, 2014: <a href="#">Iran urges Pakistan to meet pipeline deadline.</a>  | News Room    | IRNA            |

**Media Commentary**

- |   |                |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| - April 9, 2014: <a href="#">Tehran is all set to punish Islamabad by initiating a new project</a> of Iran-Oman-India (IOI) gas pipeline. | Khalid Mustafa | The News        |
| - May 14, 2014: <a href="#">New life for the gas pipeline.</a>  | Editorial      | Express Tribune |

**2. Bilateral Relations**

**Actions Taken**

- |  |          |                   |
|--|----------|-------------------|
| - April 4, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan proposed joint ministerial commission meeting with Iran</a> ahead of Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif’s visit to Tehran to prepare a wide-range agenda.               | Reporter | Trend News Agency |
| - April 5, 2014: <a href="#">Iranian border guards</a> captured by the militants of a Sunni sectarian group <i>Jaishul Adl</i> near the Pakistani border in February have been <a href="#">freed</a> . | Agencies | Dawn              |
| - April 7, 2014: Iranian parliament approved the Tehran-Islamabad <a href="#">enhanced security cooperation act.</a>   | Reporter | Pak Tribune       |
| - April 8, 2014: <a href="#">Iran has started a joint naval drill with the Pakistani navy</a> east of the strategic Strait of  | AP       | Dawn              |



<p>Hormuz, through which one fifth of the world's oil supply passes.</p>		
<p>- May 7, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan and Iran agreed to establish hotline</a> between the Frontier Corps in Balochistan and the Iranian border security force.</p>	Iftikhar A. Khan	Dawn
<p>- May 12, 2014: <a href="#">Iranian and Pakistani officials signed nine cooperation MoUs and agreements</a> during Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's visit to Iran.</p>	News Room	IRNA
<p>- May 12, 2014: <a href="#">Iran and Pakistan signed an agreement to extradite prisoners</a> as a humanitarian move.</p>	News Room	IRNA
<p>- May 24, 2014: <a href="#">Iranian naval fleet returned home after completing its one-month goodwill mission in Pakistan.</a></p>	News Room	IRNA
<p>- June 10, 2014: <a href="#">The Iranian government closed its border with Pakistan</a> with immediate effect for an indefinite period.</p>	Staff Correspondent	Dawn
<p><b>Public Statements</b></p>		
<p>- April 10, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan aims to expand relations and cooperation with Iran</a>, said a statement issued by Pakistan's Foreign Ministry.</p>	Staff Reporter	Press TV
<p>- April 17, 2014: The Pakistani foreign secretary says Prime Minister <a href="#">Nawaz Sharif's upcoming visit to Iran will give a fillip to the bilateral ties</a> between the two countries.</p>	Reporter	Press TV
<p>- April 24, 2014: Pakistani envoy to Tehran Nour Mohammad Jamdani stressed <a href="#">the necessity for the consolidation of all-out relations with Iran.</a></p>	Staff Reporter	Fars News Agency
<p>- May 5, 2014: Iran's police chief hinted that <a href="#">his country would seal its border with Pakistan any time.</a></p>	Staff Correspondent	Express Tribune
<p>- May 7, 2014: Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif said <a href="#">Pakistan wants peace in the Middle East and will remain neutral.</a></p>	Kamran Yousuf	Express Tribune
<p>- May 13, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan, Iran to jointly work for peace.</a> stated Pakistan's prime minister.</p>	News Desk	The News
<p><b>Media Commentary</b></p>		
<p>- April 4, 2014: <a href="#">Strains in Pak-Iran ties.</a></p>	Amir Mir	The News
<p>- May 10, 2014: Analysis: <a href="#">Nawaz's crucial visit to Iran.</a></p>	Dr. Simbal Khan	Dawn
<p>- May 14, 2014: <a href="#">Tehran-Islamabad-Riyadh: Axis of peace.</a></p>	News Room	IRNA
<p>- May 14, 2014: <a href="#">The prime minister's two-day visit to</a></p>	Editorial	Dawn

<p><a href="#">Iran produced little of substance.</a></p> <p>- May 24, 2014: <a href="#">Defence ministers of Iran and Pakistan call for joint confrontation with terrorism.</a></p>	<p>News Room</p>	<p>IRNA</p>
<p><b>Official Visits</b></p>		
<p>- April 20, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistani Chief Justice Tassaddug Hussain Jillani announced that he plans to pay an official visit to Tehran in the near future.</a></p>	<p>Reporter</p>	<p>Fars News Agency</p>
<p>- May 7, 2014: <a href="#">Iran’s Minister of Interior Abdolreza Rahmani Fazli called on Pakistan’s army chief Raheel Sharif</a> in Rawalpindi during his visit to Pakistan.</p>	<p>News Room</p>	<p>IRNA</p>
<p>- May 13, 2014: Pakistan’s <a href="#">Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met Iran’s Supreme Leader Ayatollah Syed Ali Khamenei</a> in Tehran and discussed with him issues of mutual interest.</p>	<p>Agencies</p>	<p>Dawn</p>
<p>- May 13, 2014: Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Khamenei called upon Pakistan to <a href="#">keep US influence at bay and build stronger ties with his country.</a></p>	<p>Agencies</p>	<p>Express Tribune</p>
<p>- May 28, 2014: <a href="#">Governor State Bank of Pakistan’s visit to Iran:</a> Both countries agree to increase trade exchange to \$5 billion.</p>	<p>News Room</p>	<p>IRNA</p>



**CHINA**

**Who**

**The Source**

**1. Bilateral Cooperation**

**Agreements Reached and Signed**

- April 4, 2014: [An MoU was signed between the Punjab government and a Chinese company Shandong Ruyi Group](#) for \$2 billion investment in the Quaid-i-Azam Apparel Park. Staff Reporter Dawn
- April 10, 2014: An [agreement was signed with a Chinese company for setting up two coal power plants](#) at Gadani in Balochistan. Reporter Dawn
- April 11, 2014: Punjab Chief Minister said [an agreement for iron ore exploration in Rajwa, Chiniot had been signed with a Chinese company](#) in the beginning of April. Correspondent Express Tribune
- April 13, 2014: [The Chinese Central Television \(CCTV\) and Pakistan Television Corporation \(PTV\) signed an MoU](#) that would enable CCTV News and CCTV 9 documentary channel landing rights in Pakistan. Agencies Pakistan Today
- May 21, 2014: [The University of Peshawar and Shandong University of Science and Technology of China reached an agreement for starting PhD split programme](#) and establishing of Chinese language centre at the former. Bureau Report Dawn
- May 22, 2014: [Pakistan and China signed the framework agreement on Lahore Orange Line Metro Train Project](#) in Shanghai. Staff Reporter The News

**Media Commentary**

- April 17, 2014: Pakistan to ensure [\\$35 billion Chinese investment in energy sector projects](#) within the next five years. Mushtaq Ghumman Business Recorder
- April 24, 2014: The [bilateral swap agreement \(BSA\) between People’s Bank of China and the State Bank of Pakistan](#) would reflect strengthening trade and investment cooperation between the two countries. Staff Reporter Daily Times
- June 27, 2014: China exploring [India-China-Pakistan trilateral security cooperation](#). Press Trust of India NDTV

**Public Statements**

- April 21, 2014: [Pakistani prime minister thanked Chinese firm Harbin Electric Company](#) at the inauguration ceremony of two gas turbines of 243 megawatts (MW) Saqib Nasir Express Tribune

<p>each in Guddu, Sindh.</p> <p><b>Actions Taken</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 12, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan Navy deploys Chinese C-602 cruise missile.</a></li> <li>- April 15, 2014: <a href="#">The first meeting of Energy Planning Working Group of China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)</a> was held in Islamabad.</li> <li>- April 20, 2014: Two-week long <a href="#">Pakistan-China joint military exercise started</a> near Pakistani garrison city Rawalpindi.</li> <li>- May 24, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan and China began their third joint air exercises</a>, code named “Shaheen-III”.</li> <li>- May 28, 2014: <a href="#">Government allocates PKR 73 billion for Pakistan-China trade corridor.</a></li> <li>- June 13, 2014: <a href="#">The financing and development of Gwadar International Airport has been taken over by China</a> and that the Pakistani Civil Aviation Authority would not be involved with the process.</li> </ul>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Monitoring Desk</td> <td>The News</td> </tr> <tr> <td>INP</td> <td>Pakistan Today</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Xinhua</td> <td>Global Times</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mateen Haider</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mehtab Haider</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Khaleeq Kiani</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> </table>	Monitoring Desk	The News	INP	Pakistan Today	Xinhua	Global Times	Mateen Haider	Dawn	Mehtab Haider	Dawn	Khaleeq Kiani	Dawn
Monitoring Desk	The News												
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Mehtab Haider	Dawn												
Khaleeq Kiani	Dawn												
<p><b>2. Bilateral Relations</b></p>													
<p><b>Public Statements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 8, 2014: Punjab’s <a href="#">Chief Minister Shahbaz Sharif said friendly relations between Pakistan and China</a> have turned into useful economic ties.</li> <li>- April 10, 2014: Pakistan’s Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif stressed that <a href="#">Pakistan attaches the highest priority to its relations with China.</a></li> <li>- April 18, 2014: Pakistan’s ambassador to China Masood Khalid said that <a href="#">youths from both the countries have the responsibility to take forward the legacy of Pak-China friendship.</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Media Commentary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 16, 2014: <a href="#">New dimensions of Pak-China relations.</a></li> <li>- June 1, 2014: <a href="#">Threat to Sino-Pak friendship.</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Official Visits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- April 10, 2014: <a href="#">Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif arrived in China</a> to participate in the 2014 Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) on the invitation of the Chinese government.</li> </ul>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Press Release</td> <td>Daily Times</td> </tr> <tr> <td>APP</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shoaib-ur-Rehman Siddique</td> <td>Business Recorder</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Malik Muhammad Ashraf</td> <td>Pakistan Today</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Muhammad Amir Rana</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>APP</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> </table>	Press Release	Daily Times	APP	Dawn	Shoaib-ur-Rehman Siddique	Business Recorder	Malik Muhammad Ashraf	Pakistan Today	Muhammad Amir Rana	Dawn	APP	Dawn
Press Release	Daily Times												
APP	Dawn												
Shoaib-ur-Rehman Siddique	Business Recorder												
Malik Muhammad Ashraf	Pakistan Today												
Muhammad Amir Rana	Dawn												
APP	Dawn												

<p>- June 2, 2014: <a href="#">Chief of Army Staff (COAS) General Raheel Sharif left for China</a> on an official visit.</p>	<p>Mateen Haider</p>	<p>Dawn</p>
<p>- June 6, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistani army chief called on China's defence minister</a> during his visit to China.</p>	<p>Staff Reporter</p>	<p>Dawn</p>



**RUSSIA**

**Who**

**The Source**

**1. Bilateral Relations**

**Actions Taken**

- April 20, 2014: [Two Russian navy ships arrived at Karachi port](#) on a first-ever goodwill visit to Pakistan for a naval exercise.
- April 21, 2014: [Russian and Pakistani naval representatives](#) discussed the possibility of joint exercises.
- June 2, 2014: [Russia has lifted its embargo on arms supplies to Pakistan](#) and is holding talks on supplying Islamabad with combat helicopters.
- June 10, 2014: [Pakistan has placed an order to Russia for purchase of the latest Mi-35 Helicopters](#) for multipurpose use including fighting terrorism.

Reporter	Zee News
Reporter	RIANOVOSTI
AFP	Dawn
Mateen Haider	Dawn

**Media Commentary**

- April 14, 2014: [Pakistan and Russia to improve relations.](#)
- June 14, 2014: [New opening towards Russia?](#)

Muhammad Saleh Zaafir	The News
Dr Hasan Askari Rizvi	Express Tribune

**Public Statements**

- April 17, 2014: Russian Federation’s ambassador to Pakistan said [Russia wanted to help Pakistan in energy sector.](#)
- April 19, 2014: A Pakistan’s former foreign minister Mian Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri said [Pakistan’s relations with Russia were not as strong as with the United States and China.](#)
- April 22, 2014: Political leaderships of [Pakistan and Russia want to move forward trade and economic relations.](#) said Pakistan’s finance minister.
- June 13, 2014: Federal Minister for Defence Khawaja Muhammad Asif said [Pakistan would improve its bilateral relations with Russian Federation](#) in all fields including trade, economic and defence.
- June 21, 2014: Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said [Moscow is keen to expand its ties with Islamabad.](#)

Imaduddin	Business Recorder
Staff Reporter	Daily Times
APP	Business Recorder
APP	Dawn
APP	Dawn



## SAUDI ARABIA

Who

The Source

### 1. Bilateral Relations

#### Media Commentary

- |   |                |                 |
|---|----------------|-----------------|
| - April 19, 2014: <a href="#">The recent Saudi-Pakistani Friendship Program</a> has brought citizens from the two countries closer.   | Fouzia Khan    | Arab News       |
| - May 5, 2014: <a href="#">Top Pakistani diplomats posted in Middle Eastern states are expected to recommend a "balanced approach"</a> vis-à-vis ties with Saudi Arabia and Iran. | Kamran Yousaf  | Express Tribune |
| - May 8, 2014: <a href="#">Foreign policy resolutions.</a>  | Editorial      | Dawn            |
| - May 21, 2014: <a href="#">Saudi Arabia, UAE financing extremism in south Punjab.</a>  | Staff Reporter | Dawn            |

#### Public Statements

- |  |                       |               |
|--|-----------------------|---------------|
| - April 2, 2014: <a href="#">Pakistan was making efforts to sell small arms and fighter jets to Saudi Arabia</a> while maintaining a balance between its ties with Iran and Saudi Arabia, said Adviser to Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs. | Staff Reporter        | Dawn          |
| - April 15, 2014: <a href="#">Saudi-Pak relations are meaningful, productive</a> , said Dr. Abdullah Omer Naseef, chairman of World Muslim Congress (WMC).   | Syed Mussarrat Khalil | Saudi Gazette |

#### Official Visits

- |   |               |           |
|---|---------------|-----------|
| - April 16, 2014: A <a href="#">20-member Pakistan government and business delegation met with Saudi officials in Riyadh.</a> | Rashid Hassan | Arab News |
|---|---------------|-----------|

#### Actions Taken

- |   |              |                   |
|---|--------------|-------------------|
| - April 4, 2014: The Pakistani consulate has worked out <a href="#">a special deal with the Saudi government to send Hajj and Umrah overstayers home in three to four days.</a> | Fouzia Khan  | Arab News         |
| - April 12, 2014: Saudi Arabia has decided <a href="#">to appoint its old-Pakistan hand Ali Bin Saeed Awadh Asseri as envoy to Pakistan.</a>                                    | Liaqat Toor  | Pakistan Observer |
| - April 12, 2014: The first event of the <a href="#">Pak-Saudi Friendship Program was held at the Jeddah Chamber of Commerce and Industry (JCCI).</a>                           | Parvez Jabri | Business Recorder |
| - April 18, 2014: The government has formally requested the Saudi government to <a href="#">enhance the quota</a>   | Reporter     | Dawn              |



<p><a href="#">of Pakistani workers in the ongoing projects in the Kingdom.</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 6, 2014: The Saudi General Authority of Civil Aviation has <a href="#">warned the Pakistan International Airlines of suspending its Umrah flights to Jeddah if it fails to overcome delay.</a></li> <li>- June 28, 2014: <a href="#">Saudi Arabian Airline stops flights to Peshawar</a> after a Pakistan International Airlines plane was attacked mid-air by terrorists with firing.</li> </ul>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Zulqernain Tahir</td> <td>Dawn</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Online</td> <td>Khaleej Times</td> </tr> </table>	Zulqernain Tahir	Dawn	Online	Khaleej Times
Zulqernain Tahir	Dawn				
Online	Khaleej Times				

### 3. REGIONAL DYNAMICS AND CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

#### 1. Bilateral Talks & Multi-Track Diplomacy

- i. April 10, 2014: [Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif arrived in China](#) to participate in the 2014 Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) on the invitation of the Chinese government.
- ii. April 17, 2014: [The Pak-Saudi Joint Ministerial Commission \(JMC\) meeting discussed several issues concerning bilateral trade and business relation](#) and called for improving bilateral trade and commerce relation. The 10th session of a 2-day meeting concluded in Riyadh and was attended by a high-level Pakistani delegation led by Federal Minister for Commerce Engineer Khurram Dastgir Khan.
- iii. April 18, 2014: Russia's Ambassador Alexey Y. Dedov has said that issues hampering smooth trade between the two countries would be discussed at the next meeting of [Russia-Pakistan Intergovernmental Commission on Trade and Economic Cooperation likely to be held this year.](#)
- iv. April 23, 2014: The Karachi-based World Muslim Congress (WMC) recently organized, in cooperation with the Pakistan consulate, a cultural event called [the "First Saudi-Pakistan Friendship Program" in Jeddah.](#)
- v. May 13, 2014: Pakistan's [Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif met Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Syed Ali Khamenei](#) in Tehran and discussed with him issues of mutual interest.
- vi. June 18, 2014: [Afghanistan's ambassador to Pakistan Janan Mosazai, held a meeting with Pakistan's Chief of Army Staff General Raheel Sharif](#) at General Headquarters.
- vii. June 21, 2014: A Track-II gathering of the Pakistani and Indian delegates in Islamabad discussed [prospects, challenges and opportunities for rationalising a peace discourse in South-Asia.](#)
- viii. June 21, 2014: [The 14th round of the Chaophraya Dialogue \(Indo-Pak Track-II\) was held in Thailand](#) by the Jinnah Institute (JI) and the Australia India Institute (AII).

#### 2. Multilateral Fora

- i. May 19, 2014: [Meeting of Afghanistan, Pakistan, and ISAF senior military officers to be held.](#)
- ii. May 19, 2014: [In a trilateral meeting held in Kabul,](#) Pakistani army chief discussed Pak-Afghan border security situation and regional security issues with Afghan military leaders and officials of the NATO-led international force.
- iii. June 18, 2014: [Foreign ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation \(OIC\) member states will discuss a number of issues,](#) including the security crisis in Iraq and the political developments in Palestine, at their two-day meeting that begins in Jeddah on Wednesday.

#### 4. SUMMARY OF TRENDS FOR THE QUARTER

While the process of reconciliation with the Taliban militants was heading nowhere some high intensity terrorist attacks including the militants' siege of Karachi airport's cargo terminal on June 9 forced the government to launch the military offensive *Zarb-e-Azb* in North Waziristan tribal agency of FATA. It had been about seven months since the government started efforts to engage the Taliban militants in talks for achieving peace in the country. Increasing attacks on security forces, growing criticism of so-called 'futile and directionless' peace talks, and infighting among the Tehreek-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) groups were some of the main factors that had already put the reconciliation process on a halt, weeks before the launch of the operation.

Besides addressing the internal security challenges, the ongoing military operation could have implication for Pakistan's relations with its neighbours. While media reports suggested that the local Taliban, and Uzbek, Chechen and Chinese militants were among the prime targets of the military strikes, the status of Afghanistan's Haqqani militants was still unknown; some believe they have relocated to Afghanistan. One thing, however, appears certain that once the operation is successfully accomplished, local and foreign militants will not be able to use North Waziristan as a place to hide, train and plan attacks inside Pakistan or elsewhere in the region. As Pakistan has asked the Afghan government to check cross-border movement of fleeing militants, the two countries need to enhance coordination and cooperation to address the common security threats including border insecurity and cross-border militant attacks from both sides. Failure to do so would compound internal security problems in both countries besides further straining bilateral ties and intensifying the ongoing mutual blame-game. While Afghanistan accused Pakistan-based militants of the attacks on an Indian consulate in May and presidential front-runner Abdullah Abdullah in June, at least nine reported cross-border attacks by the TTP militants allegedly sheltered in Kunar and Nuristan provinces of Afghanistan during the quarter under review (April to June, 2014) killed more than 33 people in Pakistan; these attacks included a large-scale offensive when 200 militants from Afghanistan attacked Pakistan border posts in Bajaur tribal agency on May 31.<sup>2</sup>

Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif made three important regional visits during the quarter under review; to India, Iran and China. Though Narendra Modi's anti-Pakistan political rhetoric during the Indian election campaign made some political analysts pessimistic about the future of India-Pakistan relations, but the subsequent post-election gestures from both sides were encouraging. Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif's decision to accept and attend Modi's oath-taking ceremony was termed by many as a step in the right direction. But resumption of composite dialogue between the two countries might yet take some time. At the same time, while the longstanding halt in the Indo-Pak peace process continued, efforts were on to revive back-channel talks. Individuals and organizations working on Track-II diplomacy also enhanced their efforts following the Pakistani prime minister's visit to India.

Nawaz Sharif's visit to Iran helped reduce the trust deficit between the two countries that had started to mount after the recent warming up of Pakistani-Saudi relations and the issue of *Jaishul Adl* militants' kidnapping and taking Iranian guards to Pakistan. Besides mutual announcements to pursue Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline, both countries appeared set to enhance bilateral security and counter-terrorism efforts. Experts see a welcome change in the incumbent government's foreign policy on the Middle East that was earlier perceived by many as inclined towards Saudi Arabia. The prime minister's views expressed at a conference of Pakistani diplomats in the Middle East and the Gulf held in Islamabad on May 6 suggested he believed in a balanced foreign policy approach on the Middle East and wanted to pursue independent 'economic diplomacy' with countries in that region.

Meanwhile bilateral cooperation and strengthening of bilateral strategic relations between Pakistan and China continued. At least six bilateral agreements were signed for different projects between the two countries during the quarter under review including Lahore Orange Line Metro Train Project. There were reports in media that Pakistan expected to ensure \$35 billion Chinese investment in energy sector within the next five years. Both countries also held joint military and air exercises in April and May, respectively. Also, Pakistan's prime minister and army chief paid separate visits to China, in April and June, respectively.

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<sup>2</sup> Statistics are based on Pak Institute for Peace Studies' database on conflict and security.

## 5. PUBLICATIONS FROM THE REGION

### Governance:

- Rana, M. Amir. 2014. “A review of National Internal Security Policy (2013-18).” *Conflict and Peace Studies*, 6(1), June: 11–16. <<http://www.san-pips.com/index.php?action=journal&id=main>>
- Wazir, A. Khan. 2014. “FATA reforms: journey so far and the way forward.” *Conflict and Peace Studies*, 6(1), June: 45–60. <<http://www.san-pips.com/index.php?action=journal&id=main>>

### Social & Economic Issues:

- FATA Research Centre. 2014. “Social and psychological consequences of violence in FATA.” Seminar report, May. <<http://frc.com.pk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/SPCV-in-FATA.pdf>>
- Humayun, Asaf and Naghmana Zafar. “Pakistan’s ‘Blue Economy’: potential and prospects.” *Policy Perspectives*, 11(1). <<http://www.ips.org.pk/eventsupdates/whatnew/newpublication/1779-policy-perspectives-vol-11-issue-1>>

### Militancy:

- Azam, Maryam. 2014. “Genesis of militancy in Pakistan.” *IPRI Journal*, 16(1), April. <<http://ipripak.org>>
- Iqbal, Humera. 2014. “Quest for peace in Afghanistan.” *Regional Studies*, 32(2): 3-50. <<http://www.irs.org.pk/PublRegionalStudies.htm>>
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- Javaid, Musa and Sara Meer. 2014. “Pak Afghan ties: views of Pakistan's political and religious parties.” *Conflict and Peace Studies*, 6(1), June: 95–112. <<http://www.san-pips.com/index.php?action=journal&id=main>>

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- Sial, Safdar and Talha S. Satti. 2014. “2014 withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan: implications for regional security.” *Conflict and Peace Studies*, 6(1), June: 17–30. <<http://www.san-pips.com/index.php?action=journal&id=main>>
- Zahid, Farhan. 2014. “Post-2014 Afghanistan: prospects for Taliban's rise to power.” *Conflict and Peace Studies*, 6(1), June: 31–44. <<http://www.san-pips.com/index.php?action=journal&id=main>>