



# Pak institute for Peace Studies

ANNUAL  
REPORT

# 2021

# PIPS Annual Report 2021

## Outline

### **1. Institutional Developments**

- 1.1 Staff, management, and advisory boards
- 1.2 Capacity building
- 1.3 Internships/fellowships
- 1.4 MoUs and collaborations

### **2 Programmatic Developments**

- 2.1 **Countering Violent & Nonviolent Extremism (CVE/CE)**
  - 2.1.1 Empirical research
  - 2.1.2 Experience sharing and policy advocacy
- 2.2 **Education for Peace and Inclusiveness**
  - 2.2.1 “Youth for Interfaith Harmony” initiative
  - 2.2.2 Social media engagement
  - 2.2.3 Research and advocacy
- 2.3 **Regional Security and Strategic Studies**
  - 2.3.1 “Supporting Afghan Peace and Reconciliation” initiative
  - 2.3.2 PIPS Displacement & Migration Studies Centre (DMSC)
- 2.4 **Conflict, Peace and Security**
  - 2.4.1 Research on conflict and peace
  - 2.4.2 PIPS digital database
  - 2.4.3 Periodic conflict and security reports
- 2.5 **Dialogue**

### **3 Publications**

#### **Annex-1: PIPS calendar of events (2021)**

# 1. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

## 1.1 Staff, management, and advisory boards

The number of PIPS staff members stood at 14 towards the end of 2021 including the director research and programmes, two research analysts/associates, one project manager, two researchers, three research assistants, one IT manager, one media and event coordinator, one finance manager, one admin and finance assistant, and one technical coordinator. With the exception of support and technical staff, all PIPS team members have at least a graduate degree in their respective fields.

Profiles of PIPS team members can be seen here: <<https://www.pakpips.com/pips-team>>

Apart from those regular staff members, PIPS employed several field researchers, trainers, and resource persons in different regions of the country to carry out different measures including those linked to research and planned interventions such as fieldwork as well as training workshops and seminars, etc.

The sad passing of I.A. Rehman and Dr Rubina Saigol in 2021 reduced the PIPS Advisory Board to seven (7) members, who included: Khaled Ahmed (Pakistan); Dr Catarina Kinnvall (Sweden); Dr Khalid Masud (Pakistan); Ghazi Salauddin (Pakistan); Anoushe Aisha Mushtaq (Australia); Prof. Dr. Khalida Ghaus

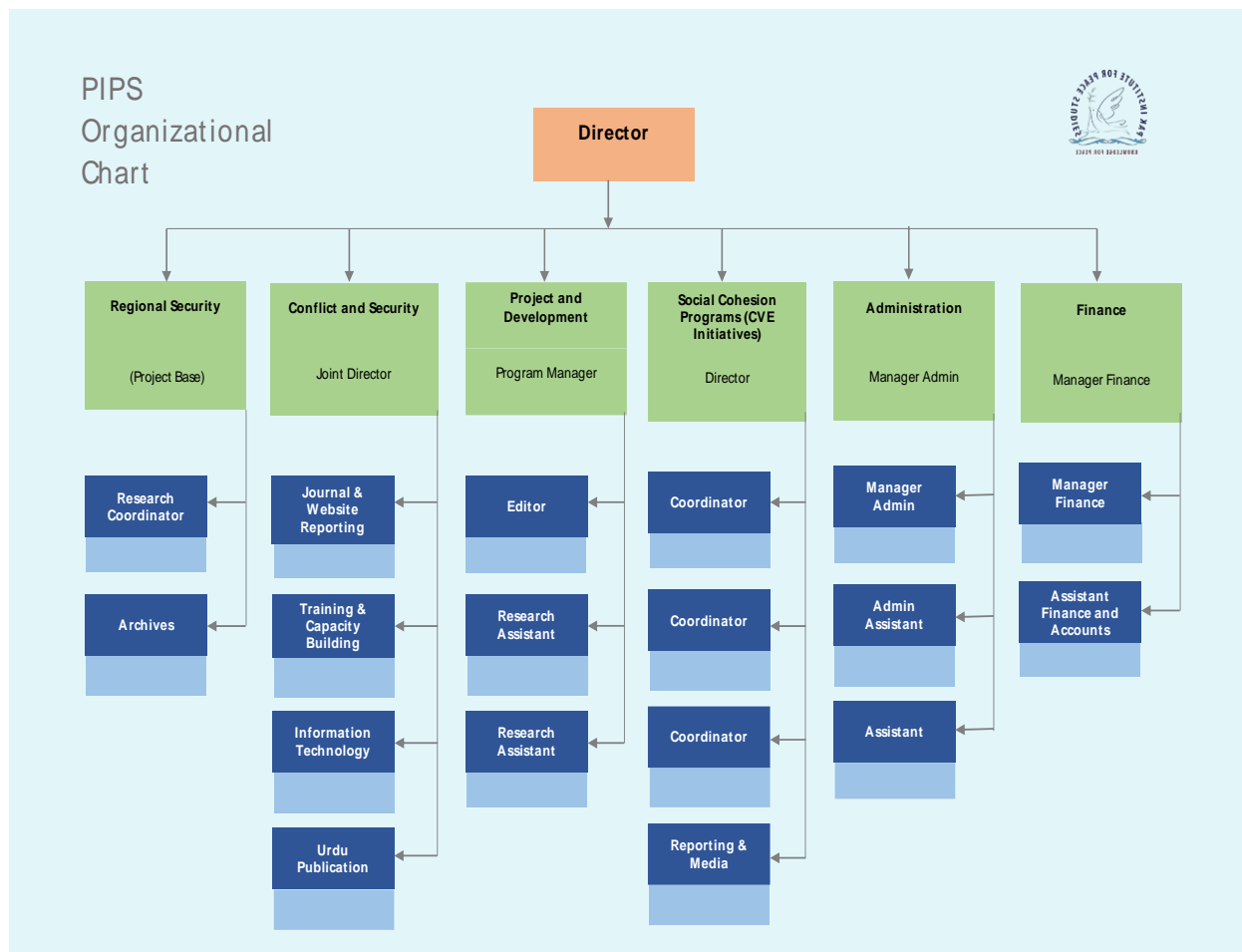
(Pakistan); and Dr. Syed Jaffar Ahmed (Pakistan).

As in previous years, the AB provided strategic guidance in matters related to PIPS mandate and policy orientation. That guidance also entailed recommendations for matters related to project implementation.

However, Director Research at PIPS, Muhammad Amir Rana, who also oversaw all the sections or departments, led the main decision-making body, or management team at PIPS in the light of AB oversight.

PIPS Editorial Advisory Board for its research journal *Conflict and Peace Studies* and other publications remained unchanged in 2021. Its members included: Khaled Ahmed, Prof. Dr Saeed Shafqat, Marco Mezzera, Prof. Dr Syed Farooq Hasnat, Anatol Lieven, Peter Bergen, Dr Muhammad Khalid Masud, Dr. Catarina Kinnvall, Dr Adam Dolnik, Dr Tahir Abbas, Dr Rasul Bakhsh Rais, and Dr Tariq Rahman. (For detailed profiles visit: <<https://www.pakpips.com/advisory-board>>

Two types of evaluation were conducted at PIPS in the year 2021 to assess the staff performance: monthly, or assignment-based, process evaluations, and an annual summative evaluation. Staff promotions and incentives were based on the results of these evaluations.



## 1.2 Capacity building

In July 2021, PIPS engaged renowned psychologist Dr Amjad Tufail, Associate Professor of Psychology at MAO College Lahore, who conducted psychological assessment of all PIPS staff members and provided counseling and guidance where needed. The underlying goal was to understand employees' work-related challenges and emotional and behavioral problems, and eventually to facilitate them in overcoming these problems to create a better work-life balance.

Besides, as in previous years, the Institute held regular internal training sessions, at least

one in a span of three months. These sessions employed different methods such as lectures by senior researchers, as well as joint reading and discussion sessions. At the same time, organizational mechanisms, set forth in PIPS Manual of Procedures, were used to enhance the capacity of PIPS staff and the quality of output. That included internal skills analysis and assignment of tasks, and joint assignments by senior and junior members.

PIPS also facilitated its staff members' participation in various national and international seminars/conferences as well as capacity building and training events.

### 1.3 Internships/fellowships

PIPS offered short-term internship to the following students and graduates in 2021:

- Ms. Zehra Umar Sayed, an O level student at Beaconhouse, did her over 5 weeks internship at PIPS in July-August 2021.
- Ms Ayesha Zahid, an M.Sc. Anthropology student at Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad completed her two months internship at PIPS from November 9, 2021, to January 8, 2022.
- Ms Bakhtawar Pervez, M.Phil. in Government and Public Policy from NDU Islamabad worked at PIPS as an intern for a few days in October 2021.

### 1.4 MoUs and collaborations

In 2021, PIPS continued to develop formal and informal linkages and collaborations with research and academic institutions. The objective has been to share mutual experiences, enhance the empirical and objective knowledge base of the issues related to conflict, insecurity and violence, etc., and to explore viable policy options for achieving peace and preventing/de-escalating conflicts in Pakistan and the wider region. Another underlying objective of this exercise has been to strengthen the institutional capacity at PIPS. Some area of PIPS collaboration with other institutes are listed below:

- Joint publications;
- Capacity building initiatives and mutual internships;
- Exchange of scholars and fellowships;

- Research collaborations;
- Holding of joint events such as conferences and seminars, etc.;
- Exchange of periodic and other publications; and
- Regular consultations with organizations and institutions with a common thematic focus in order to share experiences on research, policy advocacy and other programmatic areas.

#### *PIPS MoUs in 2021*

- On March 2, Pak Institute for Peace Studies inked an MoU with the University of Sargodha for collaboration in areas of mutual interest including the following:
  - Promotion of research collaboration
  - Joint publications
  - Exchange of scholars, faculty, and fellowships
  - Initiatives for capacity building and mutual internships
  - Holding joint events such as conferences, seminars, and training workshops etc.
  - Exchange of periodic and other publications
  - Mutual consultations with focus to share experiences about research and other programmatic areas.
- PIPS and China West Normal University's Pakistan Study Centre signed a memorandum of understanding in October 2021 to collaborate for promoting outreach and research. As per the MoU, the broad areas of cooperation included mutual benefits derived from

scholarly interaction, cooperative research, and other forms of academic collaboration.

- On October 20, 2021, Pak Institute for Peace Studies signed an agreement with Columbia University Press (CUP) according to which PIPS publications, e.g. reports and policy briefings, were permitted to be included in CUP's subscription product, Columbia International Affairs Online

(CIAO). CIAO is a full-text online database of mostly aggregated content, encompassing think tank reports, journal articles, department papers, and e-books in the field of international affairs.

Details on these and previous MoUs signed by PIPS with several organizations seen here: <https://www.pakpips.com/mous-collaborations>

## 2. PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

After a relative decline in its programmatic engagements in 2020, mainly due to Covid-19 pandemic, PIPS was once again able in 2021 to expand and implement its programs in the Institute's mandated areas.

However, the Institute continued employing alternative, Covid-proof strategies. Besides relying on virtual platforms, PIPS also held in-person meetings/events using safe distance and other protective measures.

Pak Institute for Peace Studies conducted multiple measures in 2021 in the following broader themes with occasional overlapping:

- Countering Violent & Nonviolent Extremism (CVE/CE)
- Education for peace and inclusiveness
- Conflict, peace and security
- Regional security and strategic studies
- Dialogue

These implemented activities, which are elaborated in the following pages, oriented around research and analysis, policy advocacy, and awareness and training, etc.

### 2.1 Countering Violent and Nonviolent Extremism (CVE/CE)

Violent and non-violent extremism and ideological radicalism as well as ways to prevent and counter them have been among

the major areas of focus at PIPS since the Institute's establishment. Other main themes of programmatic and research orientation at PIPS have also been directly or indirectly linked to these two phenomena such as conflict analysis and peacebuilding; religion and conflict; internal and regional security; media for peace and democracy; and dialogue, etc.

After just two years of its establishment, PIPS had launched a multifaceted programme of understanding and countering violent extremism and radicalism in Pakistan in 2007, titled "PIPS De-radicalization Plan (2007-2013)". The Plan encapsulated the related concepts of empirical understanding of radicalization and religious extremism, de-radicalization, and counter-radicalization. PIPS executed a host of activities linked to this progressive model traversing three levels: [i] Taking its basic input from empirical studies and surveys aimed at understanding the issue of violent extremism and radicalization, [ii] it underwent processes of knowledge creation and knowledge sharing to evolve certain strategies which were [iii] implemented at the final stage of de-radicalization and/or countering radicalization.

From 2013 onward, PIPS used the lessons it learnt from its implementation of the seven-year De-radicalization Plan to develop and execute certain specific CVE interventions

built around the concepts of dialogue, training and education, use of media, including social, for creating awareness among people, and production and dissemination of moderate and CVE literature and responses.

In recent years, these interventions have increasingly focused on creating moderate and CVE spaces in cyberspace using social media platforms as well as reducing the appeal of violent ideologies through awareness and advocacy campaigns and capacity building of vulnerable communities.

A brief description of PIPS' work on CVE and counter-radicalization in 2021 is given below.

### 2.1.1 Empirical research

In 2021, PIPS launched a comprehensive program titled “*Promoting soft approaches to countering terrorism & extremism in Pakistan*,” which includes research as well as policy advocacy.

The research component entailed a review of Pakistan's approaches and narratives for countering terrorism and violent extremism, and mapping of international best practices, besides development of policy recommendations for the government and civil society organizations. Besides doing literature review and desk research, empirical or firsthand data was collected through interviews, surveys, and focus group discussions.

- A questionnaire was designed to assess, through a survey, the perceptions of regional consultation participants in

Islamabad and other stakeholders. Participants of regional consultations and other relevant stakeholders completed a survey form.

- Two-day regional consultations on “exploring soft/non-violent approaches in countering terrorism and extremism in Pakistan” were organized in Islamabad.

The final report of the research study building key discussions, interviews & recommendations based on the regional consultations in Islamabad and the questionnaire-based survey was under way in December 2021, which was expected to be released during first quarter of 2022.

A preliminary draft of the report titled “*Pakistan's counter extremism challenge and policy recourse*” containing findings of consultations held by PIPS can be downloaded [here](https://www.pakpips.com/article/6310): <<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6310>>

### 2.1.2 Experience sharing and policy advocacy

Key experience-sharing and policy advocacy events on CVE/CE that PIPS organized during the year 2021, are listed below:

#### ❖ *PIPS policy consultation on*

#### **“Promoting soft approaches in countering terrorism and extremism”**

Pak Institute for Peace Studies organized a two-day regional consultation in Islamabad on November 18-19, 2021, on “promoting soft approaches in countering terrorism & extremism in Pakistan”. The participants



included current and former lawmakers, members of the federal cabinet, former senior military officials, religious scholars, representatives of civil society organizations, noted academics, economists, a former ambassador and senior journalists.

**(For detail on proceedings, please visit:**

**<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6518>>**

Various panelists throughout the two days were unanimous in advocating that for comprehensive peace in Pakistan the state must have the sole monopoly over use of force. They also urged the inclusion of soft or non-violent approaches in Pakistan's counter-terrorism and counter-violent extremism policy frameworks.

In the final session of the consultation's opening day, the ***Charter of Peace campaign was formally launched***. The campaign is part of PIPS' focus on building sustainable solutions towards peace. The consultation included participants from Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Punjab, Sindh, the federal capital, Azad Jammu and Kashmir and Gilgit Baltistan.

***Discussants (in alphabetical order):***

- Abdullah Khan, MD of PICSS, Islamabad.
- Ahmed Ali, Project Manager at Shoor Foundation, Islamabad.
- Allama Akbar Zahidi, representative Wafaqul Madaaris Shia, Quetta.
- Allama Tahir Ashrafi, Special Advisor to the PM on Religious Harmony.
- Arifa Noor, senior journalist.
- Asiya Nasir, Chairman of Pakistan Christian Forum.
- Aziz Ali Dad, social scientist and journalist from Gilgit.
- Barrister Shahzad Akbar, [ex] Advisor to Prime Minister on Accountability and Interior.
- Dileep Doshi, human rights lawyer.
- Dr Farzana Bari, human rights activist.
- Dr Zafar Jaspal, Professor at School of Politics and International Relations, QAU, Islamabad.
- Dr. Kaiser Bengali, renowned economist.
- Dr. Khalid Masud, educationist and ex-chairman Council of Islamic Ideology.
- Dr. Qibla Ayaz, Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology.
- Dr. Syed Jaffer Ahmed, director Pakistan Study Centre, University of Karachi.
- Fawad Chaudhry, Federal Information Minister of Pakistan.
- Ghazi Salahuddin, rights activist, journalist, social and political analyst.
- Hamayoun Khan, Program Manager at FES Islamabad.
- Imtiaz Gul, director at CRSS, Islamabad.
- Khursheed Ahmed Nadeem, Chairman of Organization of Research and Education.
- Khushal Khattak, HRCIP Islamabad.
- Lt. Gen. (r) Nasir Janjua, former National Security Advisor of Pakistan.
- Maulana Abdul Haq Hashmi, head of Jamaat-e-Islami, Balochistan.
- Maulana Attaullah Shahab, former advisor to the Prime Minister on Gilgit-Baltistan Affairs.
- Maulana Raghbir Naeemi, head of Jamia Naeemia, Lahore.
- Muhammad Ali Babakhel, Director General (Research) NACTA.
- Muhammad Amir Rana, director PIPS.
- Rafi Ullah Kakar, Director of Strategic Planning and Reforms Cell.
- Riffatullah Orakzai, senior journalist and expert on militancy.

- Romana Bashir, executive director of Peace and Development Foundation.
- Sahibzada Amanat Rasool, Principal Idara Fikr e Jadeed.
- Shafqat Rasheed, DSP at Punjab's CTD headquarters.
- Shahzada Zulfiqar, Quetta-based senior journalist.
- Syed Ahmed Banori, Principal Darulaloom Banori Town, Karachi.
- Syed Arfeen, senior journalist from Karachi.
- Wajahat Masood, senior journalist based in Lahore.
- Wusat Ullah Khan, senior journalist.
- Zafarullah Khan, Convener Parliamentary Research Group.
- Zarina Anjum, DSP at Punjab's CTD headquarters.
- Zia Ur Rehman, senior journalist based in Karachi.
- Zialul Haq Naqshbandi, columnist and coordinator of the Punjab government's Muttahida Ulema Board.
- Zubair Habib, Chairman Citizens-Police Liaison Committee, Karachi.

#### ❖ *Peace walks*

In the last week of December, peace walks were held in five cities (Islamabad, Sialkot, Peshawar, Karachi and Gilgit) to promote soft approaches. Around 150 walk participants in the five cities included at least 30 women and 17 members of religious minority communities.

#### ❖ *Panel discussion on*

#### **“Reintegrating former militants into civil society”**

Pak Institute for Peace Studies hosted and facilitated a virtual panel discussion on the

issue of rehabilitation and reintegration of former militants into civil society on March 24, 2021. The discussion aimed at recuperating the conversation about combating violent extremism and sharing lessons learned in this regard.

Detailed report entailing proceedings and key findings of the discussion can be seen here: <https://www.pakpips.com/article/6263>

#### **Panellists:**

- Dr. Feriha Peracha, clinical psychologist by profession, she served as the director and supervising psychologist of the Sabaoon de-radicalization and rehabilitation program.
- Dr. Stephen Tankel, expert on security as well as political and military affairs in South Asia.
- Tariq Pervez, former head of the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NACTA).
- Dr. Rachel Nielsen, director of the US-based Colorado Resilience Collaborative.
- Lisa Swenarski, Cultural Attaché at the US Embassy in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- Muhammad Amir Rana, director Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS).

#### ❖ *PIPS-FES launching of NAP and CT reports*

From May to September 2021, two reports produced by PIPS and FES Pakistan were launched in the four provincial capitals and the federal capital Islamabad in full-day policy seminars inviting policymakers, experts, journalists, and academicians, among others.

The reports included:

- ***Strengthening governance in Pakistan: assessing the National Action Plan to***

**counter terrorism & extremism** (The report can be downloaded here):  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6172>>

- **Defining terrorism in Pakistan** (The report can be downloaded here):  
<<http://library.fes.de/pdf-files/bueros/pakistan/18094.pdf>>

## 2.2 Education for Peace and Inclusiveness

Since 2015, PIPS has been engaging teachers and students at universities and colleges as well as institutions of religious education or madrassas. Key themes that are explored in such engagements are dominant narratives in educational discourse and their implications for peace and social cohesion; problematic areas in curricula, textbooks, and teaching; among others.

PIPS engagement with university/college students in 2021 is described below.

### 2.2.1 “Youth for Interfaith Harmony” initiative

In 2021, PIPS engaged Pakistan’s educated youth on **educational campuses and in cyberspace** with an aim to improve amongst them support for freedom of faith, and religious tolerance and harmony. The initiative buildt upon the philosophical approach that “youth is part of the solution to challenges thrown by violent extremism and communal and sectarian discord,” a key finding of a 2018-19 PIPS study that mapped

youth engagement programming in Pakistan. The study had suggested, among other things, for undertaking behavioral change and capacity building exercises with different age groups of youths. For one, the report noted, college and university students and graduates can be capacitated on how to engage with diversity. They should be given opportunity to interact with others who are of their age group but hold different religious, sectarian, or political views. A peculiar recommendation in that regard asserted that there is need to “sensitize” students, teachers, and administrators of educational institutions on the fundamental human rights including minority rights and freedom of faith as enriched in the Constitution.

Launched in December 2020, the Initiative undertook comprehensive training and capacity building measures until November 2021 engaging students from across Pakistan’s four provinces, Islamabad and Gilgit-Baltistan. A summary of this engagement is given below:

- As many as **20 two-day workshops** were held in which 754 university students including 43% female students were trained in issues around the project theme.
- Three (3) comprehensive **social action plans** (SAPs) were developed and implemented with trained youths through PIPS’ local partners. Likewise, 100 individual SAPs were implemented in community, neighborhood, and campus levels through trained youths across Pakistan.

**Table 1: Workshops with students: Stations and participants**

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Station &amp; date</b>   | <b>Participant students</b> | <b>Male students</b> | <b>Female students</b> |
|------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1          | Islamabad (January 14-15)   | 41                          | 25                   | 16                     |
| 2          | Peshawar 1 (January 19-20)  | 38                          | 19                   | 19                     |
| 3          | Peshawar 2 (January 21-22)  | 40                          | 21                   | 19                     |
| 4          | Abbotabad (January 28-29)   | 40                          | 19                   | 21                     |
| 5          | Swat (February 19-20)       | 34                          | 22                   | 12                     |
| 6          | DI Khan (February 25-26)    | 39                          | 27                   | 12                     |
| 7          | Sargodha (March 2-3)        | 36                          | 12                   | 24                     |
| 8          | Multan (March 8-9)          | 41                          | 29                   | 12                     |
| 9          | Bahawalpur (March 10-11)    | 47                          | 20                   | 27                     |
| 10         | Sukkur (March 15-16)        | 45                          | 33                   | 12                     |
| 11         | Hyderabad (March 18)        | 31                          | 26                   | 5                      |
| 12         | Quetta 1 (March 27-28)      | 36                          | 14                   | 22                     |
| 13         | Quetta 2 (May 31-June 1)    | 46                          | 31                   | 15                     |
| 14         | Karachi 1 (June 3-4)        | 41                          | 23                   | 18                     |
| 15         | Karachi 2 (June 7-8)        | 35                          | 19                   | 16                     |
| 16         | Lahore 1 (June 24-25)       | 38                          | 19                   | 19                     |
| 17         | Lahore 2 (June 28-29)       | 33                          | 19                   | 14                     |
| 18         | Gujranwala (June 30-July 1) | 39                          | 22                   | 17                     |
| 19         | Gujrat (July 2-3)           | 27                          | 15                   | 12                     |
| 20         | Faisalabad (July 5-6)       | 27                          | 14                   | 13                     |
|            |                             | <b>754</b>                  | <b>429</b>           | <b>325</b>             |

### ***Key themes of the workshops***

- Personal development and career counseling; emotional intelligence.
- Diversity: appreciating diverse perspectives and celebrating gender, ethnic, religious diversity.
- Youth's perspectives on religion, culture, and identity.
- Breaking myths and removing misperceptions (emphasis on critical thinking, inclusive history, shared cultural heritage, etc.)
- Rights and freedoms, and citizenship in a democracy.
- The state of religious minorities in Pakistan.
- Islam on interfaith relations.
- Religion and society.
- Constitution, citizenship, fundamental rights, and freedom in Pakistan.
- Universal declaration of human rights & Paigham-e-Pakistan.
- Freedom of expression, and media attitude towards religious minorities.
- Identifying avenues of support among youths for improved interfaith harmony among religious communities.

### **2.2.2 Social media engagement**

Towards the end of 2021, PIPS developed and launched a youth-led observatory to monitor hate speech and violations of freedom of faith and speech etc. on social media as well as print and electronic media and prepare and release periodic warnings and policy briefs.

The groundwork for the establishment of the youth-led Observatory was done with the

identification and selection of 50 internal and external young observers, whose composition and selection were made as per following criterion:

- As many as 30 students, including female and from minority communities, were selected from the pool of students trained in workshops cited earlier.
- Five young rights activists.
- Five educated youths from minority communities.
- Five young, early career media professionals.
- Five Pakistani students studying abroad.

PIPS produced 12 monthly social media monitoring reports from Dec 2020 to Nov 2021 on a pilot basis.

PIPS also created the online portal through which the observers will feed their monitoring reports. The portal/website is still in the process of developing. The link of is here:

<<http://pakistanforall.org>>

The Observatory will start issuing warnings/reviews, also entailing policy options, for relevant government departments, public, media, civil society, and policymakers.

### **2.2.3 Research and advocacy**

The workshops with the students were designed for two-way learning with the beneficiaries taking knowledge from the experts as well as contributing knowledge to the general body of knowledge on Pakistani youth by participating in surveys and interviews. Three separate sets of interlinked

data were collected from the youth. First, the participants were given survey questionnaires to fill before the start of the workshop to assess their knowledge, opinions, and perspectives on diverse issues related to the main theme. Secondly, they were given a post-workshop survey questionnaire to elicit their feedback on workshops and examine any change in their views on issues post-training. Lastly, in each workshop, 4-5 students were randomly selected for interviews and asked a detailed set of questions about issues hampering interfaith harmony and social peace in the country. The data collection resulted in considerable amount of information on youths' perspectives and worldviews about diverse issues.

All the collected data and key findings from the recorded proceedings of the workshops were used to develop four *comprehensive empirical and policy-oriented reports*, one each for each of the four provinces of Pakistan. A national-level report was also to be developed also displaying regional variances and commonalities in findings.

These reports primarily provided insight on youths' perspective on freedom of faith in Pakistan as well as policy recommendations on how to effectively engage young and other segments of society to create an environment where issues linked to the freedom of faith and minority rights could be effectively addressed.

The reports can be seen and downloaded here:

- ***Interfaith Relations in Pakistan Perspectives and Worldview of Youth in Punjab:***  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/interfaith-relations-in-pakistan-perspectives-and-worldview-of-youth-in-punjab>>
- ***How Youth in Sindh View State, Religion and Politics:***  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/how-youth-in-sindh-view-state-religion-and-politics>>
- ***Discourse with Balochistan Youth on Society, Religion, and Politics:***  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/discourse-with-balochistan-youth-on-society-religion-and-politics>>
- ***Youth Perspective on Society, Religion, And Politics: A Case Study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa University Students:***  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/youth-perspective-on-society-religion-and-politics>>

## 2.3 Regional Security and Strategic Studies

Although PIPS has been studying aspects of regional and South Asian security including strategic since its inception, it started to exclusively focus on regional security in 2013, which continued throughout the years in between to 2021.

As the study of threats is a key element of regional or international security, PIPS

believes that empirical and context-bound understanding of critical and shared threats to security in the region is imperative to bridge the gaps among the states' conflicting perceptions of their respective security concerns. Besides striving to expand the empirical knowledge base of security threats, Pak Institute for Peace Studies has also developed a vast regional and global network for information sharing and research on some of the key security issues facing Pakistan and the wider region, which also have a profound impact on regional and global security.

### 2.3.1 “Supporting Afghan Peace and Reconciliation” initiative

From July 2021, PIPS started a comprehensive two-year initiative with an overarching goal to strengthen Pakistan's support for the peace and reconciliation process in Afghanistan by expanding the knowledge base on Pakistan's policy options for peace in Afghanistan and developing and advocating improved policy options and responses. The linked objectives of the program included:

- Improved knowledge-base and awareness of key stakeholders on Pakistan's Afghan perspective and role in Afghan peace and reconciliation.
- Updated policy options and recommendations for Pakistani government and civil society in support of Afghan peace and reconciliation.

#### ❖ *Quarterly Monitors: Perspectives from Pakistan on Afghan Peace and Reconciliation*

A team of dedicated researchers at PIPS monitored, documented and analysed the opinions of different segments of Pakistani society and state institutions on Afghanistan's political, social and security situations and their perceived impact on Pakistan. Besides conducting extensive desk researches PIPS team also interviewed representatives of different segments of the state and society across Pakistan. The exercise led to the production and publishing of two quarterly monitors containing views and statements of stakeholders as well as the government's stated positions and actions in relation to peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan.

- Contents of **Quarterly Monitor-1** (Jul to Sep 2021):

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/perspectives-from-pakistan-on-afghan-peace-and-reconciliation>>

1. Summary of responses from Pakistan
2. Pakistan's role in Afghan peace & reconciliation
  - 2.1 Role in US-Taliban Doha peace deal
  - 2.2 Consistent assurance of neutrality and commitment to peace
  - 2.3 Support for an inclusive government in Kabul
  - 2.4 “Diplomatic conduit” for the Taliban government
    - 2.4.1 No unilateral recognition
  - 2.5 Facilitating evacuations and refugees
  - 2.6 Calling world's attention to the Afghan crisis in making
  - 2.7 Absence of national consensus on Afghanistan
3. Bilateral & multilateral dynamics and developments

- 3.1 Pakistan's Afghan diplomacy: From Ghani to Taliban
- 3.2 Political future of Afghanistan
  - 3.2.1 Updated baseline of Afghan security and militancy
- 3.3 Regional & international responses and concerns
- 3.4 Implications of Afghan situation for Pakistan
  - 3.4.1 The problem of refugees
  - 3.4.2 Border insecurity
  - 3.4.3 Upsurge in terrorism and extremism
  - 3.4.4 Challenges to trade and economy
- 3.5 Pakistan's options to deal with the Afghan fallout
- 4. Social media perspectives from Pakistan
- Annex-1: Monitoring of positions and actions [from Pakistan]
- Annex-2: Monitoring of positions and actions [multilateral and cross-cutting]

- Contents of **Quarterly Monitor-2** (Oct to Dec 2021):

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/perspectives-from-pakistan-on-afghan-peace-and-reconciliation-2>>

**SUMMARY:** Responses from Pakistan on Afghan situation  
**CHAPTER 1:** Pakistan's role in Afghan peace and reconciliation  
**CHAPTER 2:** Bilateral, multilateral dynamics and developments  
**CHAPTER 3:** Social media perspectives from Pakistan  
**ANNEX-1:** Monitoring of positions and actions [from Pakistan]  
**ANNEX-2:** Monitoring of positions and actions [multilateral & cross-cutting]

#### ❖ *Analytical [policy] research*

Besides internal or in-house monitoring and analysis, PIPS also engaged subject specialists and experts to produce a total of

four analytical papers/research reports in 2021 (or two in each quarter starting from July 2021) on different topics structured around the theme of Afghan conflict and peace process as seen from Pakistani perspective. While the in-house PIPS monitoring and analysis as cited earlier entailed an overall understanding of a variety of viewpoints and positions mainly around emerging events and developments, these analytical papers focused specialised aspects/themes of the subject.

The four policy-oriented analytical papers PIPS solicited in 2021 were published in form of two Situation Reviews titled ***"Afghanistan as Seen from Pakistan."***

- Contents of **Situation Review-1** (Jul to Sep 2021):

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/afghanistan-as-seen-from-pakistan-i>>

#### **Paper 1: Afghan situation: Responses from Pakistan's military and foreign policy strategists**

*By Umer Farooq*

##### Contents:

##### Key findings

1. Introduction
2. Ideology, geography and strategic interests
3. Perceptions of Pakistan's military and foreign policy establishment
4. India's strategic fear
5. Euphoria and fears in Islamabad over Taliban's 'victory'
6. Conclusion

#### **Paper 2: Afghanistan, Pakistan and the regional narcotics trade**

*By Safiya Aftab*



**Contents:**

Executive summary

1. Introduction

2. Production of narcotics

    Poppy cultivation

    Production of heroin

    Diversification into methamphetamine

    Smuggling of precursors

3. Pakistan – The counter narcotics regime and drug use

    Policy and institutional regime

    Seizures

    Pakistan as a transit country

    Drug use in Pakistan

4. Successes and challenges in countering narcotics

    Successes

    Challenges

5. Conclusion

- **Contents of Situation Review-2 (Oct to Dec 2021):**

<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/afghanistan-as-seen-from-pakistan-ii>>

**Paper 1: The peace nobody believed in**

*By Marco Mezzera & Safdar Sial*

**Contents:**

The fundamentals of a peace process

Where it all started

On the various efforts to promote intra-Afghan talks

Pakistan's involvement in facilitating peace negotiations

Void negotiations

Current prospects

Opportunities for a political dialogue

**Paper 2: Iran's Afghan policy after the U.S. withdrawal: Implications for Pakistan and the region**

*By Asif Durrani*

**Contents:**

1. Introduction

2. Background on Iran's recent approaches towards Afghanistan

    2.1 Tehran's view of the U.S.-Taliban agreement

    2.2 Iran's relations with the Taliban prior to 9/11

    2.3 Iran-Afghanistan relations after the U.S. invasion

3. The U.S. & Saudi factors: Impact on Iran's Afghan policy challenges and responses

    3.1 Iranian reaction to the Taliban's capture of Kabul

    3.2 Iran-Taliban relations

    3.3 Formidable challenges & threats for Iran

    3.4 Iran's vulnerabilities in Afghanistan and Middle East

4. Iran's regional approach

    4.1 Iran's securing its interests in a volatile region

    4.2 Iran-Afghanistan irritants

5. Iran's outlook towards the Taliban regime

    5.1 A pragmatic approach

    5.2 Pakistan-Iran understanding on Afghanistan

6. Conclusion

**❖ “Network of Resource Persons” for strengthening policy discourse**

PIPS established a ‘network of resource persons’ and held and facilitated two quarterly consultations in Islamabad in second half of the year 2021. The network of over 20 resource persons who participated in

the structured, policy-oriented closed consultations included former diplomats, academicians, government officials, and representatives of political and religious parties, security and law enforcement agencies, civil society, and media, among others.

The consultations discussed multiple aspects of Afghan conflict and political reconciliation and suggested policy options and strategies to the government of Pakistan with the aim to support Afghan peace and reconciliation and tackle its trickledown effect for Pakistan including in terms of militancy and insecurity, among other things.

○ PIPS consultation-1 on *Afghan situation: Pakistan's interests and policy options*

First consultation was held on September 24, 2021, in Islamabad. The participants noted that Pakistan and other countries needed to continue their support to Afghanistan because 'order' might have been restored there but the country had a long way to go to attain 'peace'. Thus, abandoning Afghanistan and its people will only worsen the situation and augment the spillover effects of Afghan conundrum.

For *event report*, visit:  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6444>>

For *full report* of the consultation can be downloaded here:

<[https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Report1\\_Consultation\\_Afghan-1.pdf](https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Report1_Consultation_Afghan-1.pdf)>

The participants of the consultation included:

- Afrasiab Khattak, political analyst and expert on Afghan affairs.
- Farhatullah Babar, former Senator (PPP), political analyst.
- Haroon Rashid, Managing Editor of The Independent Urdu.
- Hassan Khan, senior journalist and expert on Afghan affairs.
- Inam-ul-Haque, former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan, and former Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.
- Lt. General (Retd) Muhammad Masood Aslam, former Corps Commander Peshawar (Pakistan Army), and former Pakistan Ambassador to Mexico.
- Maulana Abdul Haq Hashmi, head of Jamaat-e-Islami Balochistan.
- Maulana Abdul Qadir Luni, head of JUI-Nazriyati Balochistan.
- Maulana Yusuf Shah, secretary general JUI-S, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- Muhammad Amir Rana, Director Pak Institute for Peace Studies.
- Qibla Ayaz, Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology.
- Rifatullah Orakzai, senior journalist and expert on Afghan affairs.
- Safdar Sial, Research Analyst at Pak Institute for Peace Studies.
- Shahzada Zulfiqar, Quetta-based senior journalist, President PFUJ.
- Syed Irfan Ashraf, Assistant Professor at the University of Peshawar.
- Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Professor at the School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.
- Zeeshan Khanzada, Senator (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) from Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

- PIPS consultation-2 on *Afghan situation: Pakistan's interests and policy options*

Pak Institute for Peace Studies held second experts' consultation (out of a series of 8) on December 11, 2021, in Islamabad. Participants noted that Pakistan needs a functional, collaborative strategy in the framework of regional approach to deal with the Afghan situation. While it was suggested that humanitarian assistance is the need of the hour, it was also emphasized that Pakistan should help Kabul in institutional development and addressing the governance deficit.

For *event report*, visit:  
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/6607>>

For *full report* of the consultation-2 can be downloaded here:  
<[https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Consultation\\_2.p](https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Consultation_2.p)>

The participants of the second consultation included:

- Afrasiab Khattak, political analyst and expert on Afghan affairs.
- Asif Ali Khan Durrani, former Ambassador of Pakistan to Iran.
- Arif Azad, writer and analyst.
- Dr Fizza Batool, Research Associate at Pak Institute for Peace Studies.
- Dr Huma Baqai, Chairperson of Department of Social Sciences, IBA Karachi.
- Dr Qibla Ayaz, Chairman Council of Islamic Ideology.
- Dr. Zafar Nawaz Jaspal, Professor at the School of Politics and International

Relations, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.

- Haroon Rashid, Managing Editor of The Independent Urdu.
- Imran Mukhtar, senior journalist and analyst.
- Lt. General (Retd) Nasser Janjua, former National Security Advisor of Pakistan.
- Maulana Abdul Qadir Luni, head of JUI- Nazriyati Balochistan.
- Maulana Yusuf Shah, secretary general JUI-S, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.
- Muhammad Amir Rana, Director Pak Institute for Peace Studies.
- Sami Yousafzai, expert on Afghan affairs.
- Shahzada Zulfiqar, Quetta-based senior journalist, President PFUI.
- Yar Muhammad Badini, Balochistan-based senior journalist.

### 2.3.2 PIPS Displacement & Migration Studies Centre (DMSC)

Website page:  
<<http://pakpips.com/app/dmasc>>

Pak Institute for Peace Studies founded the PIPS Displacement & Migration Studies Centre (DMSC) in mid-2021. Its establishment was the evolution of a core area of focus for Pak Institute for Peace Studies.

Pakistan has been home to millions of refugees, almost exclusively from Afghanistan. Over the last two decades, Pakistan has also faced extensive internal displacement, mainly on account of armed conflict and natural disasters.

The Center was borne out of a realization of acute lack of an independent, dedicated, and

credible research organization focused on forced displacement and migration despite a near omnipresent context of internal and cross-border forced displacement at least over the past four decades.

The Center came into being at a time of great uncertainty for the large existing refugee population in Pakistan—which was bound to impact voluntary repatriation choices—as well as serious apprehensions of a fresh exodus of population from Afghanistan amid deteriorating security in that country.

## 2.4 Conflict, Peace and Security

PIPS' exclusive focus on conflict, peace and security is reflected in the Institute's several periodic publications on conflict and insecurity in Pakistan, most of which are outcome of empirical research and planned interventions in the said areas.

Besides producing weekly and monthly online reports describing the level of conflict and insecurity in the country, PIPS also brings out an annual security report for every year. These reports are widely disseminated in Pakistan and abroad and not only include casualty figures in terrorist/militant attacks, but also analyze actors and dynamics of conflict and violence, the terrorists' attack tactics and the security forces' response. The reports highlight the challenges thrown up by internal insecurity and their implications for Pakistan, and present in-depth analysis of the security landscape of the country, and of the factors of insecurity and violence besides highlighting strategic solutions to reduce the risk of insecurity and violence in the country.

Besides, PIPS also brings out its flagship publication, or research journal of *Conflict and Peace Studies*, at least once a year.

PIPS has also been consistent in conducting conflict assessment focusing different regions of Pakistan. So far it has conducted strategic conflict analyses of Gilgit Baltistan, Balochistan, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and erstwhile FATA as well as Karachi and south Punjab.

### 2.4.1 Research on conflict and peace

#### ❖ *PIPS research journal* “**Conflict and Peace Studies**”

The Institute published one special issue of its research journal *Conflict and Peace Studies* in January 2021. It largely provided a review of internal and regional security in the preceding year, i.e. 2020.

Contents of these two issues are given below.

#### ***Conflict and Peace Studies*, Vol. 13, No. 1** **(Jan-Jun 2020)**

##### Foreword

1. Overview of security in 2020: critical challenges and recommendations  
*Safdar Sial and Ahmed Ali*
2. Security Landscape of Pakistan in 2020  
*Safdar Sial*
3. Militant landscape of Pakistan in 2020  
*Safdar Sial*
4. State responses  
*Safdar Sial*
5. CPEC security in 2020  
*Anam Fatima*

## 6. Islamic State or Daesh in Pakistan in 2020

*Mikail Shaikh*

Annexures

Timelines

The journal can be downloaded here:  
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/book/pakistan-security-report-2020>

### 2.4.2 PIPS digital database

PIPS has been striving since 2006 to develop a comprehensive database on conflict and security issues at national level through a continuous monitoring and documentation of each and every incident happening in the country on daily basis. In 2011, PIPS made this database digital and online, and has since then been managing it successfully at its web portal <[www.pakpips.com/app/database](http://www.pakpips.com/app/database)> through regularly updating data on incidents of violence and terrorism in Pakistan. PIPS digital database is anticipated to work as a baseline data and a permanent source of independent information for local, regional and international organizations and individuals to map militant and security landscape of Pakistan and carry out research and analysis on issues related to conflict, insecurity, violence and terrorism etc.

In PIPS database, the diversified info tracks containing details of terrorist and insurgent attacks, inter-tribal infightings and inter-tribal sectarian clashes, sectarian related terrorism, ethno-political violence, cross-border attacks and clashes, operational attacks by the security forces and their clashes with militants, kidnappings, and

search and arrest operations by the law enforcement agencies are maintained on daily basis by monitoring the print and electronic media closely. Each and every incident is given special attention regarding its nature, casualties, tactics used by terrorist groups, their targets, weaponry they use and their capabilities. A strong follow up is also observed in every incident and case by strong liaison with the PIPS correspondents in conflict zones as regards the day-to-developments on the incidents.

### 2.4.3 Periodic conflict and security reports

As in previous years, in 2021 PIPS continued to prepare and publish periodic conflict and security reports on its web portals, mainly on PIPS database website at: <[www.pakpips.com/app/database](http://www.pakpips.com/app/database)> or <<http://pakpips.com/app/reports>>).

These reports identify the areas of conflict and flashpoints, document and explain incidents of violence and terrorism, outline developments on the terrorism and security fronts, and project the future scenario. The reports are categorized as under:

- ❖ ‘PIPS weekly conflict report’ covers Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including erstwhile FATA.
- ❖ ‘PIPS monthly security report’ covers the whole of Pakistan.
- ❖ ‘PIPS annual security report’ provides a comprehensive yearly overview of the insecurity and violence in the country and suggests policy recommendations.

PIPS prepared 52 weekly conflict reports, 12 monthly security reports and an annual security report for Pakistan in 2021. These reports contained comprehensive data on terrorist attacks, casualties, the areas and factors responsible for militancy, changing tactics and targets of militants, as well as government strategies and responses. They also discussed the state of political violence in Pakistan and the situation on its borders, with a view to facilitate an understanding of the security landscape of the country.

## 2.5 Dialogue

PIPS has learned from its extensive engagement with diverse segments of the society that a continuous and concerted exercise of dialogue among them can significantly contribute to de-escalate the conflicts in Pakistani society particularly those existing at sociocultural, ideological, religious, sectarian, communal and ethno-political levels. Dialogue should also be made a constant practice in Pakistani society to invite the elements that are having extremist tendencies with a view to engage them in discussions of vital significance instead of just ignoring them. Such efforts are expected to promote a trend where efforts could be made to settle the controversies among the people and bridge the gap between them instead of leaving it on their own to settle.

### *Dialogue Pakistan Series*

In 2019, PIPS started a comprehensive 'Dialogue' programme to discuss various challenges confronting Pakistan and suggest

policy options on the level of state and society. The 2nd Dialogue Pakistan was organized by PIPS in Islamabad on January 25, 2020, wherein issues like, and related to, state, society, religion, constitutionalism, future of parliament, regional political landscape, freedom of expression, women rights, and student unions were exhaustively discussed by eminent scholars and experts.

In 2021 PIPS found it difficult to hold the event mainly due to the Covid-19 pandemic, which had partly also affected the dialogue held in the year before.

***For the year 2022, PIPS has planned to organize the event in March.***

Detailed report of Dialogue Pakistan 2020 can be seen here:

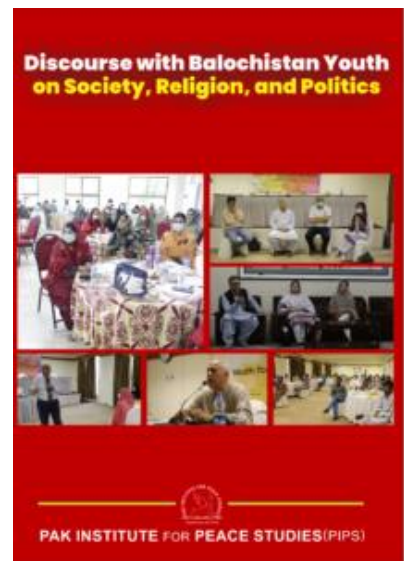
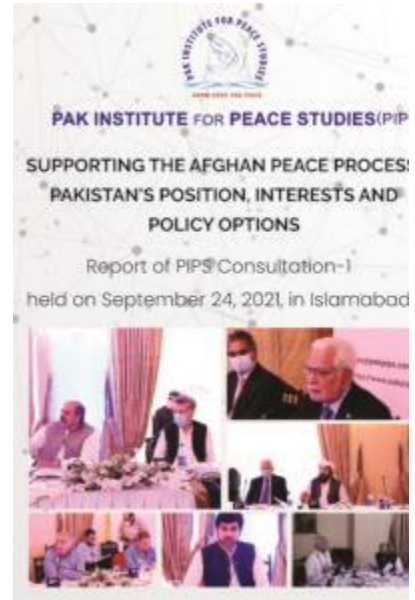
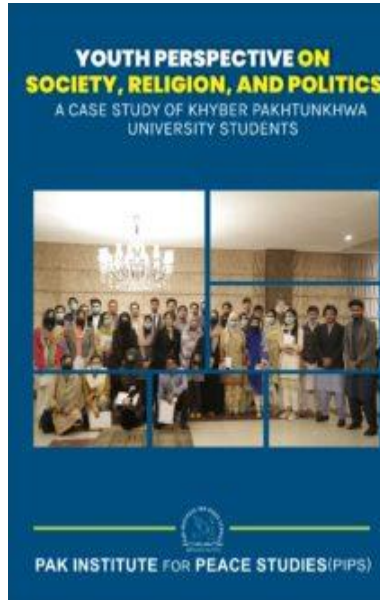
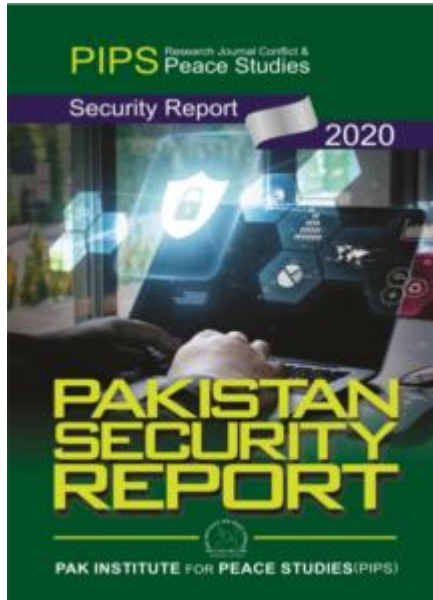
<<https://www.pakpips.com/article/5723>>

The findings and proceedings of the Dialogue were printed in form a report which can be downloaded here:

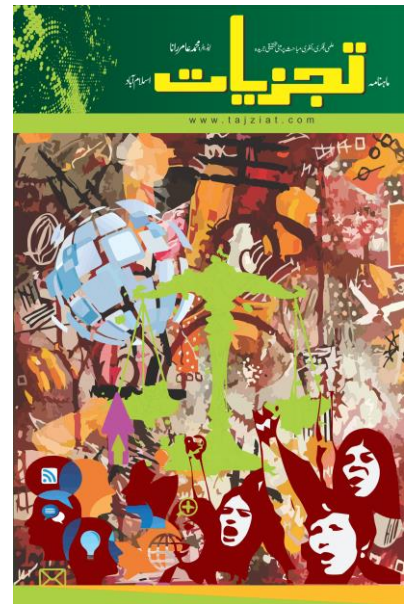
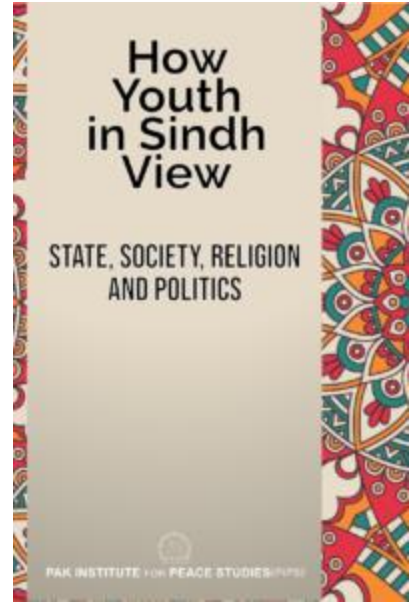
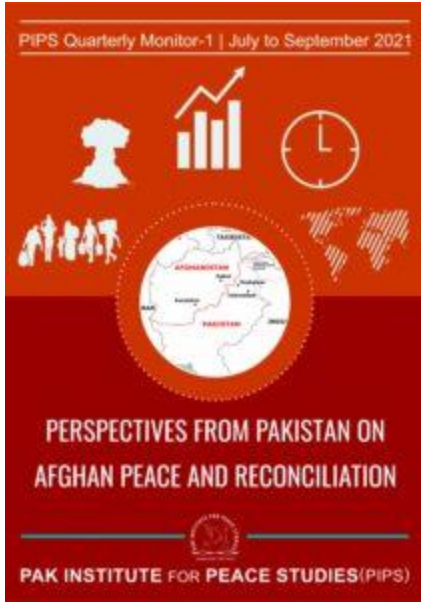
<[https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Dilogue\\_Pakistan\\_2020.pdf](https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Dilogue_Pakistan_2020.pdf)>

PIPS intends to establish Dialogue Pakistan into a credible platform that would serve as a means of orienting the discourse of structured dialogue towards problem understanding and consensual action to address the shared challenges of polarization, insecurity and violence.

### 3. PUBLICATIONS









**Annex-1: PIPS Calendar of Events (2021)**

| <b>No.</b> | <b>Event description</b>  | <b>Date</b>    | <b>Venue</b>      |
|------------|---|----------------|-------------------|
| 1.         | 1st workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | January 14-15  | Islamabad         |
| 2.         | 2nd workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | January 19-20  | Peshawar          |
| 3.         | 3rd workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | January 21-22  | Peshawar          |
| 4.         | 4th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | January 28-29  | Abbotabad         |
| 5.         | 5th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | February 19-20 | Swat              |
| 6.         | 6th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | February 25-26 | DI Khan           |
| 7.         | 7th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | March 2-3      | Sargodha          |
| 8.         | 8th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | March 8-9      | Multan            |
| 9.         | 9th workshops with students on interfaith harmony   | March 10-11    | Bahawalpur        |
| 10.        | 10th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | March 15-16    | Sukkur            |
| 11.        | 11th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | March 18       | Hyderabad         |
| 12.        | 12th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | March 27-28    | Quetta            |
| 13.        | Online seminar on “Reintegrating former militants into civil society”                                 | April 19       | Virtual           |
| 14.        | 13th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | May 31-June 1  | Quetta            |
| 15.        | Nine rounds of national consultations on “Pakistan’s counter-extremism challenge and policy recourse” | May and June   | Multiple stations |
| 16.        | 14th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | June 3-4       | Karachi           |
| 17.        | 15th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | June 7-8       | Karachi           |

|     |   |                |            |
|-----|---|----------------|------------|
| 18. | 16th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | June 24-25     | Lahore     |
| 19. | 17th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | June 28-29     | Lahore     |
| 20. | 18th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | June 30-July   | Gujranwala |
| 21. | 19th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | July 2-3       | Gujrat     |
| 22. | 20th workshops with students on interfaith harmony  | July 5-6       | Faisalabad |
| 23. | Experts' consultation on "Supporting the Afghan peace process: Pakistan's position, interests, and policy options".                     | September 24   | Islamabad  |
| 24. | Launching of report <i>Youth Perspective on Society, Religion, And Politics: A Case Study of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa University Students</i> | December 27-28 | Peshawar   |

