

PIPS ANNUAL REPORT 2023



PAK INSTITUTE FOR PEACE STUDIES

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1. INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

1.1. Staff, management, and advisory boards

Towards end of 2023, the number of PIPS staff members stood at 11 including the director research and programmes, two research analysts/associates, one project manager, two researchers, one IT manager, one media and event coordinator, one monitoring and evaluation officer, one finance manager, and two support staff. With the exception of support and technical staff, all PIPS team members have at least a graduate degree in their respective fields.

Apart from those regular staff members, PIPS engaged about 50 youths across Pakistan to monitor and report violations of faith-based hate speech, persecution and violence. During the year, PIPS also employed several field researchers, trainers, and resource persons in different regions of the country to carryout different measures including those linked to research and planned interventions such as fieldwork as well as training workshops and seminars, etc.

The 7-member PIPS Advisory Board included: Khaled Ahmed (Pakistan); Dr Catarina Kinnvall (Sweden); Dr Khalid Masud (Pakistan); Ghazi Salauddin (Pakistan); Anooshe Aisha Mushtaq (Australia); Prof. Dr. Khalida Ghaus (Pakistan); and Dr. Syed Jaffar Ahmed (Pakistan).

As in the previous years, 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 2023. 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>

1.2. Capacity building

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, as set forth in PIPS Manual of Procedures, were used to enhance the capacity of PIPS staff and the quality of output. 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 2023:

- Hussain Qazi
- Zain Zaigham Khan
- Zulakha Rashid

2. PROGRAMMATIC DEVELOPMENTS

The Pak Institute for Peace Studies took several actions in 2023 related to the following main topics, which sometimes overlapped:

- 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 & Nonviolent Extremism (CVE/CE)

Extremism, both violent and nonviolent, and ideological radicalism, as well as ways to stop and fight them, have been some of the main area of study at PIPS since the beginning. There are other main programme and research areas at PIPS that are also connected to these two areas, either directly or indirectly. These include conflict analysis and building peace, religion and conflict, internal and regional security, media for peace and democracy, dialogue, and more.

In recent times, there has been a growing emphasis on interventions that aim to establish moderate and CVE spaces in cyberspace via social media platforms. Additionally, these initiatives seek to diminish the allure of violent ideologies by means of awareness and advocacy

campaigns, as well as by enhancing the capabilities of vulnerable communities.

The following is a concise synopsis of the PIPS's efforts concerning CVE and counter-radicalization in 2023.

2.1.1. Empirical research

Several interviews were conducted by the PIPS Team in various regions of Pakistan in 2023, including Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Quetta, and Peshawar. Through these interviews, a deeper comprehension of the insurgency issues in Pakistan was achieved. To gain a more comprehensive understanding of these matters, PIPS conducted interviews with members of all sectors of society, including academia, policymakers, journalists, and civilians.

Following transcription, these reports were published in Urdu in the renowned quarterly Tajziat for the benefit of a wider audience.

PIPS conducted focus group discussions in key cities such as Islamabad, Peshawar, Quetta, Karachi, and Lahore, aiming to attain a comprehensive understanding of the insurgency issues prevalent in different regions of Pakistan. These sessions enabled the research team to delve deeper into the complexities of the challenges and formulate targeted strategies for combating insurgency.

2.1.2. Experience sharing and policy advocacy.

The following are the key policy advocacy and experience-sharing events on CVE/CE and peace that PIPS organized in 2023:

◇ Awareness Campaign

“Promoting CVE soft approaches in Pakistan”.

In addition to the Charter of Peace's inauguration and launch ceremony in Islamabad in 2022, PIPS organized CoP launch events in Quetta and Karachi. In addition to the official publication of the Charter, support was gathered from political, religious, and civil society organizations. In addition, PIPS engaged students in debates regarding various facets of the CoP¹.

Karachi CoP launch and related activities

Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) unveiled its "Charter of Peace" at the Beach Luxury Hotel in Karachi on January 16, 2023, to a large crowd. In addition to politicians, rights activists, academics, journalists, students, and political party and civil society representatives, the event was attended by a variety of others. The notable individuals who took part were as follow:

- Muhammad Amir Rana: Director, PIPS (Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies)
- Ahmed Ali: Programme Manager, PIPS
- Aftab Jehangir: Member of National Assembly (MNA), Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI)
- Rana Ansar: Parliamentary Leader of Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan (MQMP) in Sindh Assembly

- Ms Rana Ansar: Member of Provincial Assembly (MPA) from MQM
- Ali Khurshidi: Deputy Parliamentary Leader of MQMP in Sindh Assembly
- Adeeba Hassan: Member of Sindh Assembly, PTI
- Muhammad Abbas Jaferi: Member of Sindh Assembly, MQMP
- Professor Sikander Mehdi: Educationist and Researcher
- Sohail Sangi: Rights Activist and Journalist
- Ghazi Salahuddin: Scholar and Writer
- Wusat Ullah Khan: Anchorperson and Writer
- Fayaz Naich: Journalist and Anchorperson
- Rizwan Jaffar: Anchorperson and Chairman Youth Parliament
- Veengas: Editor and Human Rights Activist
- Rehan Hashmi: Former MQMP MNA

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at: <https://www.pakpiips.com/article/7365>

CoP endorsement in Karachi.

PIPS team visited the offices of 4 civil society organizations (HRCP, Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum, Aurat Foundation, and Pakistan Sikh Counsel) in Karachi and got endorsements for its CoP from the office- bearers. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP.

¹ The "Charter of Peace (CoP)" is a consensus document that outlines crucial recommendations for employing diplomatic and soft-spoken strategies to combat terrorism and

violent extremism in Pakistan. It offers feasible and environmentally sound resolutions for achieving enduring peace within the nation.

PIPS team went to the offices of two political parties in Karachi and got endorsed its Charter of Peace from the officeholders. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP. The political parties were MQL and PTI.

PIPS team went to two Universities in Karachi and got endorsed its Charter of Peace from the officeholders. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP. The Universities were Sohail University and University of Karachi.

Quetta CoP launch and related activities

The Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) unveiled its "Charter of Peace" at the Serena Hotel in Quetta on March 16, 2023. In addition to politicians, academics, journalists, and students, the event was attended by government and civil society representatives of Balochistan and lawmakers. The notable individuals who took part were as follow:

- Muhammad Amir Rana: Director, PIPS (Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies)
- Ahmed Ali: Programme Manager, PIPS
- Aftab Jehangir: Deputy Speaker, Balochistan Assembly
- Sardar Babar Khan Musakhel: Deputy Speaker, Balochistan Assembly (Chief Guest)
- Agha Raza: Majlis Wahdat-e-Muslimeen leader and former provincial minister
- Dr Nasrullah Khan: Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Centre for Peace and Development, Balochistan
- Maulana Abdul Qadir Luni: Head of JUI- Nazriyati, Balochistan
- Kalsoom Niaz Baloch: Provincial Women Wing Secretary of the National Party
- Allama Akbar Hussain Zahidi: Religious Scholar
- Naseer Khan Mandokhel: Additional Secretary, Government of Balochistan
- Maulana Abdul Haq Hashmi: Ameer, Jamaat-e-Islami Balochistan
- Sabookh Syed: Senior Journalist
- Dr Ishaque Baloch: Central Vice President, National Party

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7526>

CoP endorsement in Quetta.

PIPS team visited the offices of multiple civil society organizations (Centre for Peace and Development Balochistan, Balochistan Think Thank Network Quetta, Balochistan Council For Peace And Policy) in Quetta and got endorsements for its CoP from the office- bearers. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP.

PIPS team went to the offices of three political parties in Quetta and got endorsed its Charter of Peace from the officeholders. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP. The political parties were Jamaat-e-Islami, Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam nazaryati, and National Party.

PIPS team went to two Universities in Quetta and got endorsed its Charter of Peace from the officeholders. Videos were made and pictures shot while endorsing the CoP.

Social media campaign

Besides in-person advocacy and endorsements, PIPS also initiated an online endorsement campaign for CoP, and as many as 4372 online endorsements had been obtained by the end of the year 2023.

Link to endorsement:

<https://www.change.org/p/adopt-charter-of-peace-for-a-safer-inclusive-pakistan>

2.2. Education for Inclusiveness Peace and Inclusiveness

Youth are vital to peacebuilding processes; in socially unstable and divisive societies, they can be instrumental in bolstering tolerance, freedom of religion, and social cohesion with the proper education and training. Younger generations are more receptive than older generations to innovative efforts toward peace and harmony. PIPS has been actively involving instructors and learners from various academic establishments, including universities, colleges, and madrassas, in discussions concerning social harmony and cohesion since 2015.

The 2023 PIPS youth development initiatives are outlined below:

Youth-led Observatory Training on Freedom of Religious Beliefs in Pakistan

Following an instructional period of one year aimed at educating university students about social peace and interfaith harmony, the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) appointed fifty young observers (students) from throughout the nation to oversee infringements upon religious freedom and hate speech. Regarding this, a two-

day training program was held in Islamabad from January 9th to the 10th. As part of a PIPS initiative to educate and involve Pakistani youth in promoting interfaith harmony and social cohesion, the occasion took place. The chosen youth were instructed in how to serve as observers for violations of freedom of faith and hate speech.

Visit to The Black Hole

The young observers were educated and sensitized about pertinent matters during a visit to "The Black Hole" in Islamabad, where they engaged in an interactive session with Bolo Bhi, Director and Dawn columnist Usama Khilji. Mr. Usama emphasized to the audience, among other things, the significance of "speaking up." The session examined the economic, social, legal, and political facets of the extremism issue in Pakistan.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7336>

Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Islamabad

A one-day consultation titled "Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth" was convened by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) at the Margala Hotel in Islamabad on May 19, 2023. In addition to students, legislators, academics, journalists, rights activists, government officials, and civil society representatives, the consultation comprised three sessions on distinct topics. The sessions were moderated by Ahmed Ali, the programme manager of PIPS, and Imran Mukhtar, a journalist and researcher, respectively.

During the discussion, authorities advocated for the involvement of young people in political parties and the parliament in order to prevent arson and vandalism attacks on civilian and military installations similar to those that occurred on May 9. They voiced concern that the issues concerning the youth of Pakistan were not being addressed by political parties, academia, or the media. As a result, they speculated that their extreme frustration might lead to an increase in violent behavior. Additionally, several speakers advocated for the resurgence of student unions throughout the nation as a means to involve young people.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7336>

Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” was held in Karachi.

"Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth" was the topic of a two-day consultation hosted by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) at the Serena Hotel in Quetta on March 14th and 15th, 2023.

Politicians, academics, provincial government officials, journalists, attorneys, rights activists, representatives of civil society, and students, among others, participated in the consultation's four sessions, each of which addressed a distinct topic.

In order to promote diversity and inclusion among the youth, particularly in Balochistan, the speakers at the consultation advocated for the administration of justice, equality, the

rule of law, and the equitable distribution of resources.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7533>

Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Islamabad

A one-day consultation titled "Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth" was convened by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) at the Margala Hotel in Islamabad on May 19, 2023.

In addition to students, legislators, academics, journalists, rights activists, government officials, and civil society representatives, the consultation comprised three sessions on distinct topics. The sessions were moderated by Ahmed Ali, the programme manager of PIPS, and Imran Mukhtar, a journalist and researcher, respectively.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7688>

Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” was held in Karachi.

"Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth" was the topic of a two-day consultation hosted by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) at the Beach Luxury Hotel in Karachi on June 15 and 16, 2023.

In addition to legislators, political party members, academics, journalists, rights activists, and representatives of civil

society, the consultation comprised four sessions on distinct topics. Participants included these groups. The sessions were moderated, respectively, by Pakistan Institute of Public Affairs Programme Manager Ahmed Ali and journalist and researcher Imran Mukhtar.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7721>

Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Lahore

The Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) hosted a two-day consultation titled "Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth" at the Avari Hotel in Lahore on June 19 and 20, 2023.

Four sessions addressing distinct topics comprised the consultation. Youth, academics, political activists, journalists, attorneys, and representatives of civil society were among those in attendance at the discussion. The sessions were moderated by Ahmed Ali, the programme manager of PIPS, and Imran Mukhtar, a journalist and researcher, respectively.

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7721>

2.2.1. Social media Monitoring

By utilising its Twitter and Facebook accounts as valuable channels, the PIPS team actively monitors social media platforms in order to gain insights into inclusivity and promote narratives of peace, diversity, and inclusion among young people. PIPS strives to promote a

constructive and constructive discourse by maintaining regular participation on these platforms. In doing so, it aids in the development of an atmosphere that values and condones harmonious cohabitation and acceptance of diversity. PIPS endeavours to enhance the visibility and sway of messages that align with the principles of unity and inclusiveness by capitalising on the reach and influence of its social media presence. For a more extensive effect, the organisation specifically targets the youth demographic.

By examining social media platforms, PIPS draws attention to and emphasises minority-related issues. PIPS generates quarterly social media reports that explore narratives, concerns, and discussions pertaining to minority communities. This methodology facilitates a thorough comprehension of the obstacles and viewpoints associated with matters concerning minorities, thereby aiding in the advancement of inclusiveness, diversity, and peace via focused digital interaction.

2.3. Regional Security and Strategic Studies

Since its inception, PIPS has conducted research on various facets of South Asian and regional security, including strategic matters. It commenced concentrating solely on regional security in 2013, a trajectory it maintained until 2023.

PIPS believes that empirical and context-bound understanding of critical and shared threats to security in the region is essential for bridging the gaps between the states' divergent perceptions of their respective security concerns, given that the study of threats is a fundamental component of regional or international

security. Additionally, the Pak Institute for Peace Studies has established an extensive regional and global network to facilitate the exchange of information and conduct research on critical security concerns that affect Pakistan and the broader region. These concerns not only affect Pakistan but also have significant implications for security at the regional and global levels.

2.3.1. “Supporting Afghan Peace and Reconciliation” initiative

In 2023, PIPS continued its 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**

PIPS published and produced one quarterly monitors in 2023 detailing Pakistan's reactions to the developing situation in Afghanistan. and a single comprehensive monitor (a synopsis of the two-year monitors). A cohort of assiduous researchers affiliated with PIPS diligently observed, recorded, and assessed the viewpoints of various

sectors of Pakistani society and state institutions regarding the political, social, and security circumstances in Afghanistan, as well as the perceived repercussions of these on Pakistan. The PIPS team, in addition to conducting extensive desk research, conducted interviews with representatives from various sectors of Pakistani society and the state. As previously mentioned, the exercise resulted in the creation and dissemination of four quarterly monitors comprising stakeholder perspectives and statements alongside the government's declared stances and initiatives concerning peace and reconciliation in Afghanistan.

The monitors can download from the PIPS website, at the following links:

PIPS Quarterly Monitor-7 (January – March 2023):

https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Final_Report.pdf

Final report of PIPS analyses and expert consultations since July 2021

https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Final_Report_full.pdf

◇ **Analytical [policy] research**

Besides internal or in-house monitoring and analysis, PIPS also engaged subject specialists and experts to produce a total of eight analytical papers/research reports in 2023 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 policy-oriented analytical papers PIPS solicited in 2023 were published in form of four Situation Reviews titled “Afghanistan as Seen from Pakistan.”

– Situation Review 7 (Jan-Mar, 2023): <
<https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Report-7.pdf>>

Papers

Pakistan’s perspective on Chinese engagement with the Taliban-led Afghanistan

Hamayoun Khan

The emerging role of India in Afghanistan: Pakistan's concerns and policy response

Amir Rana & Safdar Sial

– Situation Review 8 (April-May, 2023): <
<https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Final-Report.pdf>>

Papers

Finding a new equilibrium in Pakistan-Afghanistan relations

Mansoor Ahmad Khan and Tahir Khan
Faith and faction: internal conflicts among Afghan Taliban

Ahmed Ali

◇ Expert consultations on

“Afghan peace and reconciliation: Pakistan’s interests and policy options”

Pips Consultation-7 On Afghan Peace & Reconciliation

In 2023, PIPS conducted an additional four (4) expert consultations each quarter and released its comprehensive report in Islamabad, which addressed

the evolving situation in Afghanistan and the policy priorities, concerns, and role of Pakistan. The event reports can be seen here:

Consultation Report 7:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7516>

Consultation Report 8:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7607>

Consultation Report 9

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7755>

Consultation Report 10:

<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7797>

2.3.2. An Eye on China

The Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) recently held a series of internal meetings to talk about China from both a regional and a global point of view. People who went to these sessions were supposed to get a full picture of how China's role in the world is changing. The smaller, more focused sessions went into more detail about certain topics and gave information about China's economic power, geopolitical plans, and diplomatic activities. Following are session conducted.

Navigating Challenging Times: US-China Relations and Pakistan

On July 19, 2023, in Islamabad, the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) hosted a seminar titled "Navigating challenging times: US-China relations and Pakistan." Legislators, diplomats, retired military officers, academics, and authorities on regional trade and international relations were in attendance at the event.

Notable figures participated in the event are:

- Senator Mushahid Hussain Syed: Chairman Senate Standing Committee on Defence

- Lt Gen (retd) Muhammad Masood Aslam: Former Corps Commander Peshawar
- Afrasiab Khattak: Political Analyst and Former Senator
- Farhatullah Babar: PPP Leader and Former Senator
- Professor Zafar Nawaz Jaspal: Director and Professor at the School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-e-Azam University
- Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad: Member Development Communication at the Planning Commission of Pakistan
- Brigadier (retd) Tughrul Yamin: Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Policy Studies
- Imran ul Haque: Director of Pak China Research Center at Bahria University
- Dr. Hassan Daud Butt: Project Management Specialist and Associate Professor at Bahria University
- Dr. Sumeera Imran: Assistant Professor at the Department of International Relations, National Defence University
- Aoun Sahi: Journalist and Researcher
- Dr. Fazl ur Rahman: Director of Pakistan Institute of China Studies
- Muhammad Amir Rana: Director, PIPS (Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies)

The link to the complete event report, videos and pictures of the event could be found at:
<https://www.pakpips.com/article/7730>

10 years of CPEC and the economic growth of Pakistan

On August 11, 2023, a comprehensive in-house roundtable discussion titled "10 years of CPEC and the economic growth of Pakistan" was convened by the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS). "Overview and evolution of CPEC over the past decade," "Economic growth and development facilitated by CPEC initiatives," "Infrastructural advancements and their ramifications for trade and connectivity," "Challenges encountered and prospects for additional advancement," and "The function of CPEC in fostering regional and global economic integration" were the sub-themes addressed during the presentation. Attending were authorities on CPEC, the economy, and Pakistan-China relations.

List of speakers

- Muhammad Amir Rana: Director, PIPS (Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies)
- Dr. Fazl Ur Rehman: Director, Pakistan Institute of China Studies
- Ali Salman: Executive Director, Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME)
- Hamayoun Khan: Program Advisor, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung
- Shahzada Zulfiqar: Quetta-based Senior Journalist and Ex-President PFUJ

Islam in China: Exploring History, Culture, And Relations

On September 19, 2023, the Pak Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS) hosted an internal roundtable discussion titled "Islam in China: Exploring History, Culture, and Relations" for the entire day. "Comprehending the historical trajectory of Islam in China and its present condition," "Evaluating the

cultural interchanges and convergences between Islam and Chinese society," and "Investigating the function of Islam in fostering social harmony and comprehension within the Chinese context" were some of the sub-themes that comprised the presentation. Scholars of Islam and authorities on China attended the discussion.

List of speakers

- Muhammad Amir Rana: Director, PIPS (Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies)
- Dr. Qibla Ayaz: Chairman, Council of Islamic Ideology
- Muhammad Israr Madni: President, The International Council for Religious Affairs.

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 2023. It largely provided a review of internal and regional security in the preceding year, i.e. 2022. Contents of the issue are given below.

Conflict and Peace Studies, Vol. 15, No. 1 (Jan-Jun 2023)

Foreword

1. Overview of Security in 2022: Critical Challenges and Recommendations

Muhamamd Amir Rana and Safdar Sial

2. Security Landscape of Pakistan in 2022

Safdar Sial

3. Militant Landscape of Pakistan in 2022

4. State Responses	Safdar Sial
5. The TTP Resurgence in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa	Safdar Sial
6. Security Situation of Balochistan in 2022	Dr. Farhan Zahid
7. Security Situation of Sindh in 2022	Shahzada Zulfiqar
Annexures	Zia Ur Rehman

The journal can be downloaded here: <
https://www.pakpips.com/web/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/SecReport_2022.pdf>

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> 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 2023 too, 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> or <<https://pakpips.com/app/reports>>).

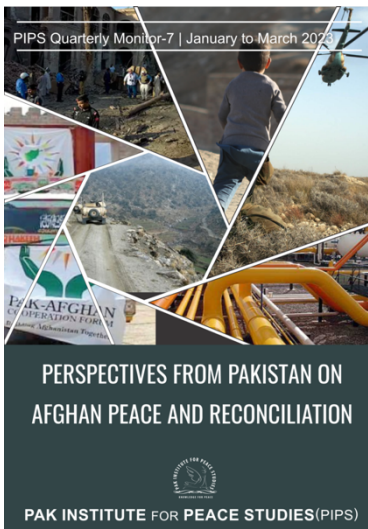
These reports identify the areas of conflict and flashpoints, document and explain incidents of violence and terrorism, outline developments on the terrorism and security fronts, and project the future scenario. The reports are categorized as under:

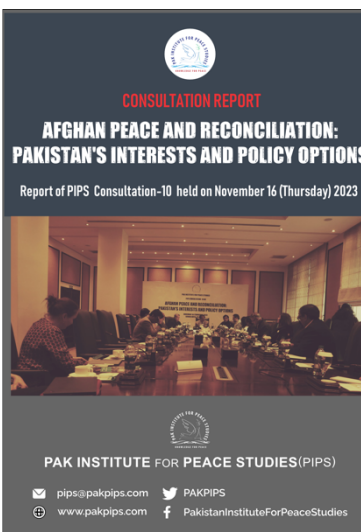
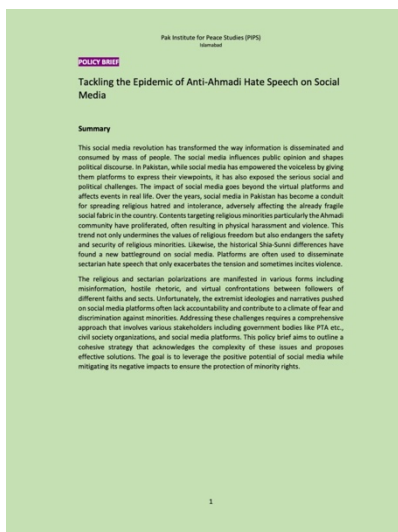
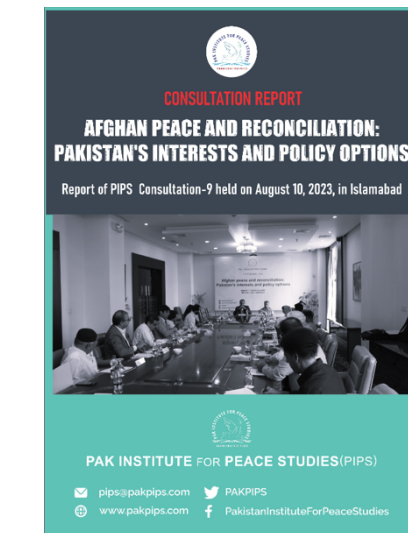
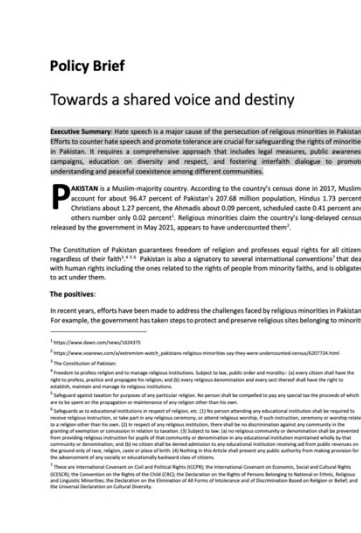
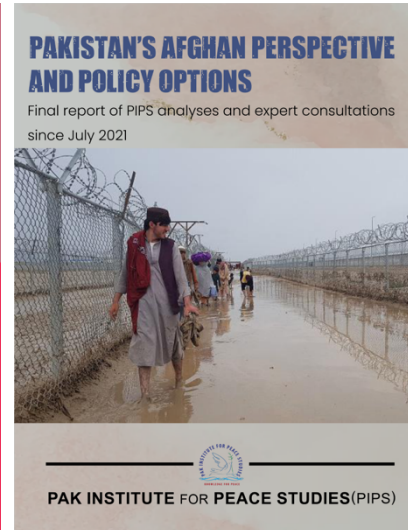
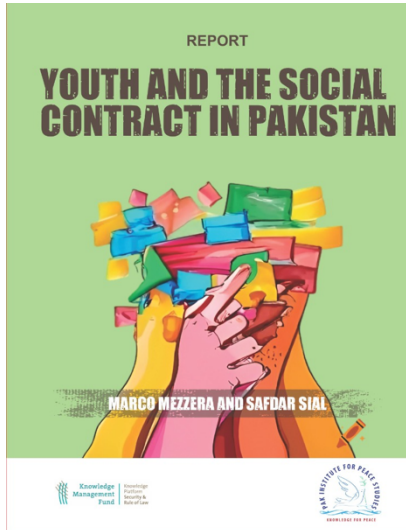
- ❖ ‘PIPS weekly conflict report’ covers Khyber Pakhtunkhwa including erstwhile FATA.
- ❖ ‘PIPS monthly security report’ covers the whole of Pakistan.
- ❖ ‘PIPS annual security report’ provides a comprehensive yearly overview of the insecurity and violence in the country and suggests policy recommendations.

PIPS prepared 52 weekly conflict reports, 12 monthly security reports and an

annual security report for Pakistan in 2023. 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.

3. PUBLICATIONS





Annex-1: PIPS Calendar of Events (2023)

No.	No. Event description	Date	Venue
1	Youth-led Observatory Training on Freedom of Religious Beliefs in Pakistan	9-10 January, 2024	Islamabad
2	PIPS launches “Charter of Peace” in Karachi	January 16, 2023	Karachi
3	PIPS consultation-7 on Afghan Peace & Reconciliation	March 7, 2023.	Islamabad
4	PIPS launched its “Charter of Peace” in Quetta	March 16, 2023	Quetta
5	PIPS holds Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Quetta	14-15 March, 2023	Quetta
6	PIPS Holds its 8th Consultation on Afghan Peace & Reconciliation	May 4, 2023	Islamabad
7	PIPS holds Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Islamabad	May 19, 2023	Islamabad
8	PIPS launch of report “Pakistan’s Afghan perspective and policy options”	30 May 2023	Islamabad
9	PIPS Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” was held in Karachi	15 -16 June 2023	Karachi
10	PIPS holds Consultation on “Promoting Narratives of Diversity, Inclusion, and Peace among Youth” in Lahore	19 - 20 June 2023	Lahore
11	Navigating Challenging Times: US-China Relations and Pakistan	July 19, 2023	Islamabad
12	Pips consultation-9 on Afghan Peace & Reconciliation	August 10, 2023	Islamabad
13	10 years of CPEC and the economic growth of Pakistan	11 August, 2023	Islamabad
14	Islam in China: Exploring History, Culture, And Relations	19 September, 2023	Islamabad
15	PIPS CONSULTATION-10 ON AFGHAN PEACE & RECONCILIATION	16 November, 2023	Islamabad