



Newsletter - Centre for Law and Security

BLOGS

Outcomes of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Heads of Government Summit

*By Research Associate,
Asfand Yar Khan*

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Heads of Government (CHG) Summit's primary outcomes centered around enhancing regional connectivity, trade, and security, while addressing pressing global issues.

International Law Perspective on Israel's ground invasion in Lebanon

*By Legal Research Associate,
Linta Jamil*

The violation of international law by Israel's recent invasion of Lebanon is multi-fold. Israel has not only violated Lebanon's state sovereignty, but it has also gone against the principles of International Humanitarian law (IHL) and various UN Resolutions.

Is there a need for Judicial Reforms in Pakistan?

*By Research Officer,
Minahil Changez*

Pakistan, like many other countries, faces numerous hurdles in bringing judicial reforms. The Judicial system plays an important role in upholding the rule of law, protecting the rights of every individual in the country and ensuring justice for all individuals



This Week in Law & Security

- After successfully steering the 26th Amendment Bill, 2024, through the Senate, the coalition government passed the contentious constitutional package in the National Assembly during the predawn hours. The judiciary-oriented constitutional package proposed a set of constitutional amendments, including provisioning a fixed three-year term of the Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP).
- Amid opposition from the Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) and Jamiat-Ulema-e-Islam Fazl (JUI-F), the Senate Standing Committee on Law and Justice agreed to increase the number of Supreme Court judges to 25 in order to clear the backlog of cases. The meeting, presided over by Senator Farooq H Naek, agreed to increase the sanctioned strength of SC judges to 25, including chief justice of Pakistan.

Constitutional Amendments: Process and Previous Amendments

*By Research Officer,
Malik Aansa Batool*

Constitution is a legal document for any nation. In a country like Pakistan, where the rules that guide how we are governed require to change with times, understanding how constitutional amendments work is very important. The constitution is like the rulebook for any state that provides a framework for how a country is governed, outlining the rights of citizens and the powers of the government.

Is there a Need for Constitutional Court in Pakistan?

*By Research Officer,
Minahil Changez*

Pakistan's current instability and legal challenges call for the creation of constitutional court. The existing judiciary, including the Supreme Court, is overburdened with both civil and constitutional cases, causing delays in crucial constitutional decisions. A specialized court dedicated to constitutional issues would ensure quicker and more focused resolution of dispute related to the constitution.

Theory of separation of powers: Is it possible in Pakistan?

*By Research Officer,
Zainab Shehzadi*

The 1973 Constitution of Pakistan lays out principles of the theory of "Separation of Powers" with a credible system of checks and balances within the governance structure of the country. The principles of this theory are integral to democratic values promoting accountability, protecting individual rights, and ensuring that governance operates within a framework of law and justice.

- Qatar will invest \$3 billion in diverse sectors of Pakistan, including trade, investment, culture, and others following a successful visit of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, Information Minister Attaullah Tarar said.
- The potential under-filers will face the music as the tax machinery would go against them big time, barring them from making major transactions, said the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) Chairman.
- The deadline for filing income tax returns has expired, said the Federal Board of Revenue (FBR) spokesperson, adding there was no chance of further extension in the date for submission of returns. In a statement on October 14, the federal board had last announced to extend the date for filing income tax returns till October 31.
- The year 2024 has emerged as one of the deadliest for journalists in Pakistan, marked by multiple targeted killings, including six media practitioners and a YouTuber. Additionally, 57 violations have been documented, highlighting the lack of action from provincial authorities to address the impunity surrounding crimes against the media, as reported by the media watchdog Freedom Network in its "Impunity Report 2024".
- The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has extended visa amnesty programme by two months for the violators who have overstayed in the country. Through an announcement, the Federal Authority for Identity, Citizenship, Customs, and Ports Security (ICP) extended the grace period, giving the violators a chance to rectify their status till December 31, 2024.
- India has called for collaboration and regional cooperation in South Asia to tackle the deteriorating air pollution dilemma after Pakistan's Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz floated the idea of engaging in diplomatic efforts with India

Legality of Israel's preemptive strike and Self-Defense in the light of international law

*By Research Officer,
Abid Khattak*

There has been much discussion and disagreement on whether Israel's preemptive strikes and claims of self-defense are permitted under international law. The dispute revolves around Article 51 of the UN Charter, which recognizes the intrinsic right to self-defense against an armed attack.

Geneva convention and Israel's War Crimes and Accountability

*By Research Officer,
Minahil Changez*

Israel's alleged violation of Geneva conventions in the conflict in the Palestinian conflict have raised global concerns about war crimes and the need for accountability under international law. Accountability for such actions has been a point of contention with calls for investigations by the international criminal court (ICC) and other bodies to ensure compliance with the Geneva conventions.

Iran-Israel Hezbollah and the Middle Eastern Security Dynamics

*By Research Officer,
Malik Aansa Batool*

Iran and Israel have secured a central position in the geopolitical proceedings of the Middle East. The primary goal of both the states was to counter the Arab's dominance in the region for which both the states have successfully shaped their regional policies.