CLAS Newsletter 9th Dec, 2024



### **Newsletter - Centre for Law and Security**

### **BLOGS**

# Impact of U.S. Elections on Pakistan

By Research Associate, Rabia Anwaar

Foreign policy is the epicenter of U.S. electoral debates as the outcome will definitely impact its partners and allies. Change of leadership in America reflects change of stance in critical areas of bilateral relationship such as military and economic assistance, development cooperation and trade ties.

### **Are Tariff Wars Coming?**

By Research Officer, **Abid Kakar** 

Intense discussion has been generated by Donald Trump's tariff policy during his first term and in the run-up to his second. His strategy for dealing with foreign trade centers on using tariffs as a weapon to support homegrown industry and close revenue disparities.

### Are Environment Laws of Pakistan Inefficient

By Research Associate, **Linta Jamil** 

Gaps in legislation and an insufficiency of laws to cover the different causes of pollution is harming the biodiversity. Pakistan Environmental Protection Act (PEPA) 1997 is the cornerstone of environmental pollution laws in Pakistan.



### This Week in Law & Security

- The future of the planet is at stake reiterated by members at the top United Nations court, ICJ, while opening a historic case that aims to set a legal framework on how countries should tackle climate change. More than 100 countries and organizations are set to present before the International Court of Justice over the next two weeks, the highest number ever.
- The Khyber Pakhtunkhwa cabinet approved a plan of action for restoring peace in the Kurram tribal district by setting up 65 checkpoints at key locations, including along the main highway, banning people involved in spreading hatred, and deploying Frontier Constabulary platoons.
- In the first full US reaction to Assad's overthrow by a coalition of rebel factions, Biden also warned that Washington will "remain vigilant" against the emergence of terrorist groups, announcing that US forces had just conducted fresh strikes against

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### Bridging the gap through Climate Diplomacy

#### By Research Associate, Rabia Anwaar

Smog diplomacy is not a panacea for the decades-old traditional rivalry between Pakistan and India, but it is a pragmatic starting point to ease deep-seated tensions. India and Pakistan can potentially mend ties on climate change, as the environmental crisis presents an apolitical, mutually existential challenge that transcends traditional rivalries. The vulnerabilities shared create opportunities for dialogue and collaboration.

## How Smog is threatening human security in Pakistan?

### By Research Officer, Minahil Changez

Smog, a severe form of air pollution composed of smoke and fog, poses a serious threat to human security in Pakistan. Major cities like Lahore, Karachi, and Faisalabad experience intense smog, particularly in the winter months. This environmental issue is exacerbated by rapid industrialization, vehicular emissions, and agricultural burning. The severity of Pakistan's smog crisis lies not only in its immediate impacts but also in its long-term implications for human security and development.

## Fragility of Truce in Lebanon and Pathway to Peace

#### By Research Associate, Rabia Anwaar

Achieving a sustainable and durable peace in the Levant region seems quite a hard nut to crack. This region has been a victim of turmoil and instability since decades, owing to either personal ambitions of stakeholders or foreign involvement and occupation; directly or indirectly. The ceasefire in Lebanon, though brokered by international committee but vulnerable to Israel's expansionism, questions its longevity and durability in the face of already occurring ceasefire violations.

militants from the militant Islamic State group (IS).

- Crown Prince Mohammed Bin Salman and UAE leader Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan met Al Ain, a former oasis on the Omani border, hours after a Gulf Cooperation Council summit in Kuwait. Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler discussed "new crises" in the Middle East with the UAE's president during his first visit to the country in three years.
- The government is planning 'wholesale' changes to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act (Peca) 2016, which would see the formation of a new authority, with powers to block online content and access to social media, as well as prosecuting those propagating "fake news".
- Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met with Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman on the sidelines of the 'One Water Summit' in Riyadh, where they discussed strengthening the economic, trade, and investment ties between Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.
- The United Nations appealed for more than \$47 billion to deliver vital aid next year, warning surging conflicts and the climate crisis will leave hundreds of millions of people in need.
- US President-elect Donald Trump has called for an immediate ceasefire and negotiations to end the ongoing conflict between Ukraine and Russia, describing the situation as "madness."
- Chief Justice of Pakistan (CJP) Yahya Afridi has passed the buck to the committee of constitutional benches for the formation of a full court to hear petitions challenging the 26th Constitutional Amendment.

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#### **WEBINAR SERIES**

# Trump's Second Presidency and Future of Pakistan-U.S. Relations



CLAS held a webinar titled **Trump's Second Presidency and Future of Pakistan-U.S. Relations** on Friday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2024.

The potential return of Donald Trump to the White House has led to emerge widespread discussions regarding the trajectory of U.S. foreign policy vis-à-vis Pakistan. As Pakistan remains a vital U.S. partner in South Asia, Trump's potential return raises questions on whether his administration would redefine Pakistan-U.S. relations within the sensitive geopolitical landscape, particularly with an increasingly assertive China, deepening India-U.S. ties and the evolving political dynamics in Afghanistan.

#### Speakers:

- 1. Amb. Ashraf Jehangir Qazi
- 2. Mr. Rehman Azhar