***WEEK 1***

**Concept and Introduction of Foreign Policy:**

1. **Definition of Foreign Policy:**

* Foreign policy is a set of principles and strategies that a government uses to interact with other nations. It encompasses diplomatic, economic, military, and cultural relations with foreign entities.
* In the case of Pakistan, foreign policy is instrumental in safeguarding national security, promoting economic interests, fostering regional stability, and enhancing the country's global standing.

1. **Objectives of Foreign Policy:**

* Pakistan's foreign policy seeks to achieve several key objectives, including ensuring national security and defense, maintaining territorial integrity, and protecting sovereignty.
* It aims to foster economic development through trade agreements, foreign investment, and access to international markets.
* Regional stability is a priority, particularly in relation to neighboring countries such as India and Afghanistan.
* Pakistan also seeks to enhance its global influence by participating in international forums and contributing to global peace and security.

1. **Components of Foreign Policy:**

* Diplomacy plays a central role in foreign policy, with Pakistan engaging in bilateral and multilateral negotiations to advance its interests.
* Military strategy is essential for defense and deterrence, especially given the regional security environment.
* Economic partnerships and trade agreements, such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), contribute to economic development.
* Cultural diplomacy involves promoting Pakistani culture, arts, and education to foster goodwill and understanding abroad.

1. **National Interest:**

* Pakistan's national interests encompass a wide range of concerns, including security from external threats, access to resources, and economic prosperity.
* The protection of national sovereignty and territorial integrity is a fundamental interest in foreign policy.
* Balancing relationships with key allies, such as the United States and China, is driven by national interests and security considerations.

**Historic Background of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy:**

1. **Post-Independence Era (1947):**

* After gaining independence from British India in 1947, Pakistan's foreign policy focused on establishing diplomatic relations with other nations and seeking international recognition.
* Pakistan became a member of the United Nations in 1947, marking its entry into the global diplomatic arena.

1. **Cold War Dynamics:**

* During the Cold War, Pakistan played a pivotal role in the region, aligning with the United States in the 1950s and later developing closer ties with China.
* These alliances were influenced by geopolitical considerations, with Pakistan acting as a buffer state in the region.

1. **1971 and the Bangladesh Liberation War:**

* The loss of East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) in the 1971 war with India had significant implications for Pakistan's foreign policy, leading to regional realignments.

1. **Nuclear Program:**

* Pakistan's pursuit of nuclear weapons in the 1970s and 1980s resulted in tensions with the international community, including sanctions.

1. **Afghanistan and the Soviet Invasion:**

* Pakistan supported Afghan mujahideen during the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan (1979-1989), receiving U.S. assistance and playing a key role in the conflict.

1. **Post-9/11 Era:**

* After the 9/11 attacks, Pakistan's foreign policy shifted as it joined the U.S.-led War on Terror, impacting its security, alliances, and global image.

1. **China-Pakistan Relationship:**

* The China-Pakistan relationship has evolved into a strategic partnership, with projects like CPEC boosting economic ties and regional influence.

1. **India-Pakistan Relations:**

* The India-Pakistan rivalry has influenced foreign policy decisions, including efforts at conflict resolution through dialogue and negotiations.

**--------------------------------------------- END OF WEEK 1 ------------------------------------------------**

***WEEK 2***

**Foreign Policy and its Determinants:**

1. **Internal Determinants:**

* Political Leadership: The decisions made by Pakistan's political leadership play a crucial role in shaping foreign policy. This includes the Prime Minister, President, and other key policymakers.
* Public Opinion: Public sentiment and the opinions of various interest groups can influence foreign policy decisions. Public perceptions of security threats, economic interests, and regional stability all impact the internal determinants of foreign policy.
* Economic Considerations: The state of Pakistan's economy and its financial stability have a direct impact on foreign policy choices. Economic growth, trade deficits, and resource allocation affect diplomatic and economic foreign policy decisions.
* Security and Defense: Pakistan's internal security situation, including threats from extremist groups and border security concerns, is a critical determinant of foreign policy. Efforts to secure the nation's borders and ensure national defense influence external relationships.

1. **External Determinants:**

* **Regional Security Environment:** The security dynamics in the South Asian region, including relations with neighboring countries like India and Afghanistan, significantly influence Pakistan's foreign policy.
* **Global Power Politics:** The strategic interests of global superpowers, such as the United States, China, and Russia, can exert pressure on Pakistan's foreign policy choices. Balancing relationships with these countries is an external determinant.
* **International Organizations:** Pakistan's membership in international organizations like the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) can impact its foreign policy, as it engages in diplomatic efforts on global issues.
* **Economic Partnerships:** Trade and economic ties with countries and regions, such as the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and relations with Gulf states, are external determinants that affect Pakistan's foreign policy.

**Readings:**

* "The Study of Foreign Policy in International Relations" (https://www.researchgate.net/publication/330476527\_The\_Study\_of\_Foreign\_Policy\_in\_International\_Relations): This reading provides an academic perspective on the study of foreign policy and its determinants.
* (Additional resource) "Pakistan's Foreign Policy Determinants: Internal and External Influences" (https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1177/097152311201700208): This paper discusses the factors influencing Pakistan's foreign policy, including internal and external determinants.

**Instruments of Pakistan’s Foreign Policy:**

1. **Economy:**

* **Trade Diplomacy:** Pakistan uses trade agreements and partnerships to promote economic interests. The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a prime example of a major economic instrument in foreign policy.
* **Foreign Aid and Assistance:** Pakistan seeks financial support and aid from international organizations and countries to address development challenges and strengthen economic ties.
* **Bilateral and Multilateral Economic Forums:** Participation in forums like the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) facilitates economic diplomacy.

1. **Military:**

* **Deterrence:** Pakistan maintains a strong military as a deterrent against external threats. The military plays a vital role in safeguarding national security and territorial integrity.
* **Alliances and Military Cooperation:** Pakistan forms military alliances and cooperates with countries like the United States and China on security matters, including counterterrorism efforts.
* **Peacekeeping Missions:** Pakistan contributes to United Nations peacekeeping missions, demonstrating its commitment to global peace and security.

**Readings:**

* "Pakistan's Instruments of Foreign Policy" (https://dailytimes.com.pk/856998/pakistans-instruments-of-foreign-policy/): This article provides insights into the economic and military instruments Pakistan uses in its foreign policy.
* (Additional resource) "Pakistan's Economic Diplomacy: Instruments and Effectiveness" (You can search for this paper online for a more detailed analysis of Pakistan's economic instruments in foreign policy).

**--------------------------------------------- END OF WEEK 2 ------------------------------------------------**

***WEEK 3***

***Pak - India Relationship***

**Historical Context:**

The historical context of India-Pakistan relations dates back to the partition of British India in 1947, leading to the creation of two independent nations, India and Pakistan.

The partition resulted in communal violence and displacement, leaving a legacy of mistrust and animosity.

**Diplomatic Efforts:**

Over the years, both countries have made diplomatic efforts to improve relations and address disputes.

The Shimla Agreement (1972) and the Lahore Declaration (1999) were significant attempts to normalize relations and promote peace.

Diplomatic channels, including high-level meetings and summits, have been used to engage in dialogue on various issues.

**Terrorism and Security:**

Terrorism has been a major concern in the India-Pakistan relationship, with accusations of cross-border terrorism and militant groups operating in the region.

Security concerns have led to military buildups along the Line of Control (LoC) and frequent border skirmishes.

Terrorist attacks, such as the 2008 Mumbai attacks, have heightened tensions between the two countries.

**Track-II Diplomacy:**

Track-II diplomacy involves unofficial, back-channel dialogues and discussions, often facilitated by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and individuals.

Track-II diplomacy has played a role in creating an environment for confidential talks and exploring potential solutions to conflicts.

**Recent Developments:**

Recent developments include peace talks between India and Pakistan, such as the resumption of the Comprehensive Bilateral Dialogue (CBD) in 2015, which aimed to address multiple issues.

However, there have also been incidents of cross-border violence, such as the 2019 Balakot airstrike and subsequent military clashes.

**International Mediation:**

Various international actors, including the United States, have attempted to mediate and facilitate dialogue between India and Pakistan.

The United Nations has also played a role in addressing issues related to the Kashmir dispute.

**Cold Start Doctrine:**

The Cold Start Doctrine is a military strategy attributed to the Indian armed forces.

It involves a rapid mobilization and limited offensive operations to respond swiftly to cross-border terrorism without escalating into a full-scale war.

The doctrine seeks to address the perceived shortcomings in India's response to terrorist attacks emanating from Pakistan.

**Major Disputes:**

**Kashmir Dispute:** The Kashmir dispute is the most significant and long-standing issue in India-Pakistan relations.Both countries claim the entire region of Jammu and Kashmir and have fought wars and engaged in frequent border skirmishes over it.

The dispute dates back to the partition of British India in 1947 and the subsequent instrument of accession signed by the Maharaja of Kashmir, which led to a conflict between the two countries.

The Line of Control (LoC) serves as the de facto border, and the issue remains unresolved, leading to periodic tensions.

**Wars:**

**First Indo-Pak War (1947-1948):** This was the first military conflict between India and Pakistan following the partition.It was triggered by the invasion of Kashmir by tribal militias and Pakistani forces.The war ended with the signing of the Karachi Agreement in 1949, which established the ceasefire line in Kashmir (now the Line of Control).

**Second Indo-Pak War (1965):** This war was primarily over the Kashmir issue and started with Pakistan's Operation Gibraltar.The conflict ended with the signing of the Tashkent Agreement in 1966, brokered by the Soviet Union, which restored the status quo.

**Third Indo-Pak War (1971):** This war began as a result of the Bangladesh Liberation War, where Pakistan's military actions in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) led to Indian intervention. It ended with the signing of the Instrument of Surrender, resulting in the creation of Bangladesh as an independent nation. The Simla Agreement of 1972 was also signed, outlining the principles for resolving bilateral issues, with an emphasis on peaceful dialogue.

**Important Missions/Operations:**

**Operation Gibraltar (1965):** Pakistan initiated this covert operation to infiltrate armed militants into Indian-administered Kashmir to foment unrest. It led to the outbreak of the Second Indo-Pak War.

**Operation Meghdoot (1984):** India's codename for its military operation to capture the Siachen Glacier, a region in the northern part of the Line of Control. This operation resulted in India gaining control of the glacier, leading to ongoing territorial disputes.

**Kargil War (1999):** A limited war fought along the Line of Control in Kargil district of Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan's infiltration of troops into Indian territory led to intense fighting. The conflict ended with the intervention of the United States and the Lahore Declaration.

**Agreements and Treaties:**

**Simla Agreement (1972):** This agreement was signed after the 1971 war and established principles for the normalization of relations and the peaceful resolution of disputes between India and Pakistan.

**Tashkent Agreement (1966):** Signed after the 1965 war, it aimed to restore economic and diplomatic relations between the two countries.

**Lahore Declaration (1999):** Signed after the Kargil War, it reiterated a commitment to resolve issues through dialogue and peaceful means.

**Composite Dialogue (2004):** A framework for addressing various issues, including Kashmir, trade, and people-to-people contacts.

***China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)***

**Background:** Launched in 2015 as a flagship project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), CPEC aims to connect Gwadar Port in southwestern Pakistan to China's northwestern Xinjiang region through a network of infrastructure projects.

**Components:** CPEC includes transport infrastructure (highways, railways, pipelines), energy projects (power plants, dams), industrial zones (Special Economic Zones or SEZs), and the development of Gwadar Port.

**China's Investment:** China has invested heavily in CPEC, bringing economic development, job opportunities, and infrastructure improvement to Pakistan.

**Economic Impact:** CPEC is expected to significantly boost Pakistan's economy by reducing transportation costs, increasing trade, and attracting foreign investment.

**Geopolitical Implications:** CPEC has raised concerns due to its route through Pakistan-administered Kashmir, affecting India's stance, and strategic implications for China's access to the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean.

**Security Challenges:** CPEC faces security challenges, particularly in Balochistan, where separatist groups oppose the project.

**International Cooperation:** CPEC has the potential to enhance economic connectivity in the region, linking with other BRI projects.

In summary, CPEC is a major infrastructure and economic development project connecting Gwadar Port in Pakistan to China's Xinjiang region. It has significant economic and geopolitical implications but also faces security and diplomatic challenges.

***Pakistan-China Relationship***

**Historical Background:**

Pakistan and China have a longstanding strategic partnership established in 1951 and formalized by the Treaty of Friendship in 1963. This deep friendship has remained a cornerstone of their foreign policies.

**Mutual Support:**

They consistently support each other on international issues. China supports Pakistan on conflicts with India, while Pakistan supports China on matters like Tibet and Taiwan.

**Economic Cooperation:**

Economic ties have grown through the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a flagship Belt and Road Initiative project. It brings Chinese investment into Pakistan for infrastructure, energy, and industry development.

**Military Cooperation:**

Both countries have a history of military collaboration, including arms sales and joint exercises. China is a major supplier of military hardware to Pakistan.

**Diplomatic Coordination:**

They closely coordinate on regional and global issues, including Afghanistan, counterterrorism, and shared regional stability interests.

**People-to-People Ties:**

Cultural exchanges, educational scholarships, and tourism initiatives strengthen bonds between the nations.

**Nuclear Cooperation:**

China played a role in Pakistan's nuclear program, which has raised international concerns.

**Geopolitical Implications:**

Their alliance affects regional geopolitics, particularly in relation to India, shaping South Asian dynamics.

**Summary**

Pakistan and China share a deep-rooted strategic partnership, marked by mutual support, economic collaboration through CPEC, military cooperation, and geopolitical implications for South Asia.

**U.S. Containment Policy Against China**

**Historical Context:** Evolved from initial engagement to addressing concerns about China's growing influence.

**Economic Measures:** Includes tariffs and trade restrictions to address issues like intellectual property theft and unfair trade practices.

**Technology and Supply Chain Concerns:** Focuses on restricting Chinese access to sensitive technologies and critical supply chains.

**Military Posture:** Increased presence in the Indo-Pacific region, challenging China's territorial claims.

**Multilateral Approaches:** Building coalitions and alliances to counter China's influence, exemplified by the Quad.

**Human Rights and Values:** Criticism of China's human rights record leads to sanctions and measures targeting human rights abusers.

**Global Diplomacy:** Countering China's influence in international organizations and cautioning countries against excessive debt from China.

**Strategic Competition:** Viewing China as a strategic competitor across economic, military, and ideological domains.

**Challenges and Risks:** Include potential military confrontation, supply chain disruptions, and the need for cohesive international efforts.

**Summary**

The U.S. containment policy against China involves addressing economic, technological, military, and human rights concerns, focusing on competition and cooperation, while balancing challenges and risks.

**--------------------------------------------- END OF WEEK 3 ------------------------------------------------**

***WEEK 4***

***Pakistan’s Relations with Afghanistan***

**Historical Context:**

* **Ethnic Ties:** Both Pakistan and Afghanistan share cultural, ethnic, and linguistic ties, particularly among Pashtun populations living on both sides of the border.
* **Durand Line:** The Durand Line, established in 1893 by the British, remains a contentious issue. Afghanistan does not officially recognize it as the border with Pakistan.

**Political Relations:**

* **Post-9/11 Realignment:** After the 9/11 attacks, Pakistan faced pressure to align with the United States in the War on Terror, leading to shifts in its Afghan policy.
* **Support for Afghan Governments:** Pakistan has supported various Afghan governments, including the Northern Alliance, the Taliban regime, and the post-Taliban democratic governments.

**Taliban and Post-Taliban Era:**

* **Taliban Support:** Pakistan's historical support for the Afghan Taliban has had a significant impact on relations, with allegations of sanctuary and support.
* **Involvement in Peace Talks:** Pakistan has played a role in facilitating peace talks between the Afghan government and the Taliban, including hosting negotiations in Islamabad.

**Security and Refugees:**

* **Cross-Border Attacks:** The Afghan conflict has led to security challenges for Pakistan, including cross-border attacks by militants from Afghanistan.
* **Refugee Crisis:** Pakistan has hosted millions of Afghan refugees for decades, which has strained resources and created social and economic challenges.

**Economic and Trade Relations:**

* **Trade Potential:** Pakistan and Afghanistan have the potential for increased economic cooperation, including trade in goods and energy projects like the Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) pipeline.
* **Border Crossing Issues:** Ongoing political tensions and security challenges at the border have hindered trade and transit between the two countries.

**Geopolitical Influence:**

* **Regional Dynamics:** Pakistan and Afghanistan both play strategic roles in regional geopolitics, with the interests of major powers often intersecting in the region.
* **China's Role:** The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) has the potential to impact regional dynamics, including Pakistan-Afghanistan relations.

**International Mediation:**

* **Role of International Actors:** Various international actors, including the United States, China, and regional organizations like the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), have attempted to mediate and facilitate dialogue between Pakistan and Afghanistan.
* **Challenges to Stability:** Both countries face common challenges related to terrorism, extremism, and the pursuit of stability in the region. Cooperation in addressing these challenges is critical.

***Pakistan-Iran Relationship***

**Historical Background:**

Pakistan and Iran share a long history of cultural, religious, and economic ties due to their proximity and historical connections.

Both countries have significant Shia and Sunni Muslim populations, which contribute to religious and cultural affinities.

**Diplomatic Relations:**

Pakistan and Iran established diplomatic relations shortly after Pakistan's creation in 1947, and diplomatic missions were opened in each other's capitals.

The relationship has generally been characterized by friendly ties and diplomatic exchanges.

**Economic Cooperation:**

Both countries have engaged in economic cooperation, including trade and energy projects.

The Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline (also known as the Peace Pipeline) is a notable project aimed at supplying natural gas from Iran to Pakistan.

**Security Concerns:**

Security challenges, such as border issues and the presence of militant groups in the region, have at times strained bilateral relations.

Both countries have cooperated on border security and intelligence sharing to address common security threats.

**Regional Dynamics:**

Pakistan and Iran share interests in regional stability, particularly in Afghanistan, where they have both played roles in peace efforts.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and its potential impact on regional dynamics may have implications for Pakistan-Iran relations.

**Balancing Act:**

Pakistan has at times faced challenges in balancing its relations with Iran and other Gulf Arab states, given the regional rivalry and sectarian tensions in the Middle East.

Efforts to maintain neutrality and mediate regional conflicts have been part of Pakistan's foreign policy.

**Trade and Transit:**

Both countries have the potential for increased trade and transit cooperation, particularly through the development of border infrastructure and trade routes.

**Energy Cooperation:**

Energy cooperation has been a focal point, including discussions about electricity and oil/gas trade.

The Iran-Pakistan gas pipeline project is significant in this context.

**Cultural and Religious Ties:**

Cultural exchanges and religious ties, particularly among Shia communities, have contributed to the people-to-people connections between Pakistan and Iran.

**Challenges and Opportunities:**

While the relationship between Pakistan and Iran has generally been friendly, it faces challenges related to regional geopolitics, security issues, and economic constraints.

The potential for increased economic cooperation, trade, and energy projects presents opportunities for further strengthening the relationship.

**International Factors:**

The influence of major international actors, including the United States and China, can also impact Pakistan-Iran relations, especially in the context of Iran's nuclear program and regional stability.

**---------------------------------------------- END OF WEEK 4 -----------------------------------------------**