

National Security Policy Of Pakistan 2022-2026.pdf

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Pakistan's first comprehensive National Security Policy 2022-2026 is an important milestone that prioritises national cohesion and the prosperity of people, while guaranteeing fundamental rights and social justice without discrimination.

Pakistan's long-term development depends on economic, human, and traditional security, as well as delivery-based good governance.

Pakistan's national security thinking aims to ensure the security of its most vulnerable citizens by expanding economic resources and strengthening its traditional and non-traditional security.

Pakistan's National Security Policy provides strategic guidance on priority areas for policy action and lays out a broad roadmap.

The National Security Policy is aspirational, but must be based on reality.

The National Security Division and the Prime Minister worked to develop the first National Security Policy.

The National Security Policy 2022-2026 is the fruition of many years of dedicated work and consultations. The document is a product of the Prime Minister's leadership and guidance throughout the process.

We would like to thank our in-house experts for their efforts in drafting a final cohesive policy document.

The National Security Policy is dedicated to the people of Pakistan and links security with economic and social well-being.

The Policy articulates a citizen-centric 'Comprehensive National Security' framework for Pakistan, which places economic security at the core of comprehensive national security and recognises a symbiotic relationship between economic, traditional, and human security.

The Policy captures ongoing trends in the changing world order and their implications for Pakistan, and emphasises the importance of a proactive, forward-looking approach to Pakistan's external relations.

This document contains eight sections that explain the national security policy formulation process and describe the country's national security interests.

Six thematic sections of the report examine national security, including national cohesion, economic security, defence, territorial integrity, internal security, foreign policy, and human security.

The National Security Policy will continue to evolve and provide guidelines to mitigate threats and avail new opportunities to make Pakistan even more secure and prosperous.

Pakistan's national security policies have evolved over time, integrating defence capabilities with economic and societal capacities to leverage national power.

Pakistan has lacked a comprehensive security policy, but the National Security Policy has been envisioned to fill the void.

The process of formulating the National Security Policy began in 2014 and involved extensive consultations with all federal ministries and divisions, provincial governments, governments of Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, military institutions, intelligentsia and citizens.

The National Security Policy is reviewed and updated yearly, or in case of a major event, and is designed to be flexible in a fluid global and national security landscape.

The National Security Division is responsible for coordinating the implementation of the National Security Policy.

Pakistan is envisioned as an Islamic welfare state with a peaceful neighbourhood, a secure economy, and good governance.

The ultimate purpose of national security is to ensure citizens' safety, security, dignity, and prosperity. The concept of comprehensive national security aims to achieve this objective by integrating traditional and non-traditional elements of national security.

Pakistan is navigating myriad national security challenges amidst a changing world order. However, the nation is increasingly predicated on all aspects of governance that impact the lives of citizens.

Pakistan is committed to safeguarding its sovereignty and territorial integrity, ensuring national cohesion and harmony, preserving territorial integrity, enhancing economic independence, and ensuring the writ of the state.

Pakistan's vital national security interests are best served by placing economic security as the core element of national security and moving away from the traditional guns versus butter debate.

Pakistan is already focusing on two interconnected elements of economic security: development and growth orientation and export, investment, and connectivity focus, to ensure sustained macro-economic stability.

Pakistan's national security challenges require a whole-of-government approach. Breaking silos and moving towards inter-departmental synergy is necessary.

All elements of national power should be channelled towards the fulfilment of Pakistan's vital national security interests.

Pakistan's resilience as a nation rests in the resolve of our people against internal and external challenges, and the state-citizen relationship must be nurtured.

Pakistan's national security policy will remain pragmatic and introspective for the furtherance of our vital national security interests.

Pakistan's National Security Policy recognises that security requires a graduated approach to ensure continued prosperity.

Pakistan needs policy continuity to turn evolving challenges into opportunities.

Pakistan's constitution and diverse culture inform our citizens' identity and provide them with a sense of pride and national esteem. We must reinforce our coherent national identity based on the principle of unity in diversity.

Pakistan has made significant gains in poverty alleviation, but more efforts are needed to address socio-economic inequalities, such as geographical disparities and the gap between the formal and informal economy.

Good governance strengthens the state-citizen bond, fosters citizen contentment, and helps bring the society together. Enhanced coordination among public sector institutions is required to tackle increasingly complex issues that are often cross-cutting in nature.

Pakistan's current account deficit is caused by foreign exchange outflows exceeding inflows, and a manageable fiscal deficit is achieved through export growth and foreign direct investment.

Socio-economic inequality is a national security priority that will be addressed by preventing elite capture of policy, providing access to entrepreneurship and ownership, and ensuring social security for the most vulnerable citizens.

The South Balochistan, Sindh, and Gilgit-Baltistan development packages and increased allocations for the Newly Merged Districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa are aimed at reducing the external economic imbalance and vertical and horizontal inequalities.

Pakistan's economic resilience is demonstrated by a positive growth trajectory and vibrant economy, but it requires high growth to ensure employment opportunities commensurate with its education levels and skills.

Pakistan's geo-economic location provides a unique opportunity to expand its exports and industrial base while building rewarding economic relationships in the region. Pakistan's extensive Exclusive Economic Zone and coastline provide untapped opportunities for trade connectivity, natural resource exploration, and wealth generation.

Pakistan is trying to balance its requirement for consistent growth with maintaining solvency by increasing its ability to generate revenues.

Pakistan's energy sector has contributed to low economic output, rising costs of production, and increased burden on government funds in the form of subsidies and capacity payments. The country aims to increase the share of renewable energy and hydropower projects by 2030.

Pakistan's pace of technological adaptation and innovation will determine the strength of its economy and the livelihoods of its citizens as labour-intensive work is replaced with automation.

Pakistan's workforce should be globally competitive, especially in the skilled and semi-skilled categories, to help create opportunities for citizens abroad.

Pakistan's economic policies should focus on enhanced productivity, investment, and savings, addressing the external imbalance, and prudent fiscal management.

Pakistan needs to reform its energy sector to promote sustainable eco-friendly energy development.

Pakistan is pursuing an open and secure border policy with respect to ease of movement, economic activity, and linkages with overall plans for economic connectivity. This includes a focus on training and modernisation of paramilitary and Law Enforcement Agencies.

With a dangerous and regressive ideology gripping the collective conscience in our immediate neighbourhood, Pakistan is committed to defending its territorial integrity.

The Indian Ocean is fast becoming a space for contestation. Pakistan needs to focus on strengthening its capabilities to meet emerging challenges.

Pakistan's nuclear deterrence regime is vital for regional peace, and India's nuclear triad is a threat to regional peace.

Pakistan continues to maintain a policy against the militarisation of space at international forums and will continue to invest in its national space program.

Cyber space and critical infrastructure are crucial aspects of defence. Investing in cyber security of critical infrastructure is crucial to ensure uninterrupted supply of essential services and the security of privileged information.

Pakistan will adopt a holistic, interconnected whole-of-nation approach to neutralize attempts to undermine its security and stability through hybrid warfare.

Pakistan's policy objectives are to defend its territorial integrity and deter aggression.

Space-based technology is used to combat disinformation and influence operations.

Pakistan has fought a successful war against terrorism and is taking positive steps towards preventing terror financing, addressing structural deficiencies and sense of deprivation in recruitment areas, and promoting a pluralistic anti-terror narrative.

Pakistan will separate reconcilables and irreconcilables, cut off recruitment, constrict financial sources, and pursue targeted socio-economic policies to address governance-related concerns.

Pakistan is a diverse nation comprising different ethnicities, religious beliefs, sects and languages. Extremism and radicalisation on the basis of ethnicity or religion pose a challenge to our society.

Pakistan's international standing is threatened by narco-trafficking, which also results in the supply of drugs and harmful substances among our young demographic.

International politics is in a fluid state, with regional pivots and great power competition defining the race over resources and influence.

The militarisation of the global commons is triggering new investments in military technologies, the retreat of major powers from arms control treaties, and renewed competition in military domination.

Pakistan has adopted a dynamic approach to a fast-changing world order, focusing on political diplomacy and economic diplomacy to support its political and strategic interests.

Pakistan will focus on its economic and human security-centric outlook to reverse any unfair negativity attached to its image.

Pakistan's location at the crossroads of historical confluence provides unique opportunities for Pakistan, especially as a hub for connecting important economic and resource-rich regions.

Pakistan is committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and is committed to supporting the people of Kashmir until they achieve their right to self-determination.

Pakistan supports peace in Afghanistan and is committed to addressing economic, humanitarian, and security issues.

Pakistan and China have a deep-rooted relationship that is driven by shared interests and mutual understanding. Pakistan welcomes Foreign Direct Investment in CPEC-related and other Special Economic Zones.

Pakistan is concerned about the rise of Hindutva-driven politics in India, which threatens its security and undermines the global non-proliferation regime.

India is spreading disinformation against Pakistan and attempting to impose one-sided solutions.

Pakistan shares deep fraternal and religious ties with all Gulf countries, as well as with Turkey. The relationship is based on historic trust, mutual cooperation, and long-standing economic ties.

Pakistan will continue to seek mutually beneficial engagement with the United States through trade, investment, connectivity, energy, counter-terrorism, security, and intelligence cooperation.

Pakistan intends to explore new opportunities for trade and investment with European Union countries post-Brexit, and to continue to cooperate on counter-terrorism and connectivity.

Pakistan's geo-economic pivot is focused on enhancing trade and economic ties through connectivity with Central Asian countries and Russia.

Pakistan seeks to strengthen its bilateral and multilateral cooperation with countries in the Asia-Pacific region and to build more extensive relationships with countries in Latin America and elsewhere.

Pakistan believes in multilateralism to promote global values and ensure the rights of developing countries.

Pakistan uses the UN to safeguard its interests on issues such as human rights, climate change, refugees, non-proliferation, and the peaceful uses of nuclear technology.

Pakistan is a leading voice in the fight against Islamophobia, debt relief for developing countries, and the return of ill-gotten wealth.

Policy Objectives: Develop broad-based relationships with global powers, maintain diversified foreign policy options, and seek regional peace through normalisation of relations.

Pakistan is one of the most populous countries in the world with a population of over 200 million. The country's youth bulge can help the country achieve exponential economic progress if its potential is galvanised and concentrated in productive endeavors.

Pakistan needs to ensure a healthy population to ensure a productive workforce and is committed to investing in the preventive, promotive, and public health ecosystem.

Pakistan is among the countries most vulnerable to climate stress. Over 140 extreme weather events have occurred in the past two decades, causing enormous losses to Pakistan's resource-constrained economy.

To feed Pakistan's growing population, the government must ensure a sustainable food basket by increasing cultivable land, increasing yield per acre, and introducing import substitution.

Illegal market practices such as hoarding and smuggling must be stopped. Drinking water and sanitation facilities should be improved.

Gender equality and human rights are cross-cutting issues of paramount importance in Pakistan, as women's ability to participate in the workplace is limited.

Mainstream climate adaptation and response in Pakistan to steer it towards climate resilient development.

Pakistan is a young and energetic country with immeasurable power potential that aims to advance its vital national security interests through a whole-of-nation approach.

Pakistan seeks to reposition itself as a leader in a world undergoing fundamental transformation by investing in key areas.

Pakistan is poised to take advantage of its location to strengthen its economic security and defence capabilities.

Our collective efforts will result in a more secure and prosperous Pakistan.