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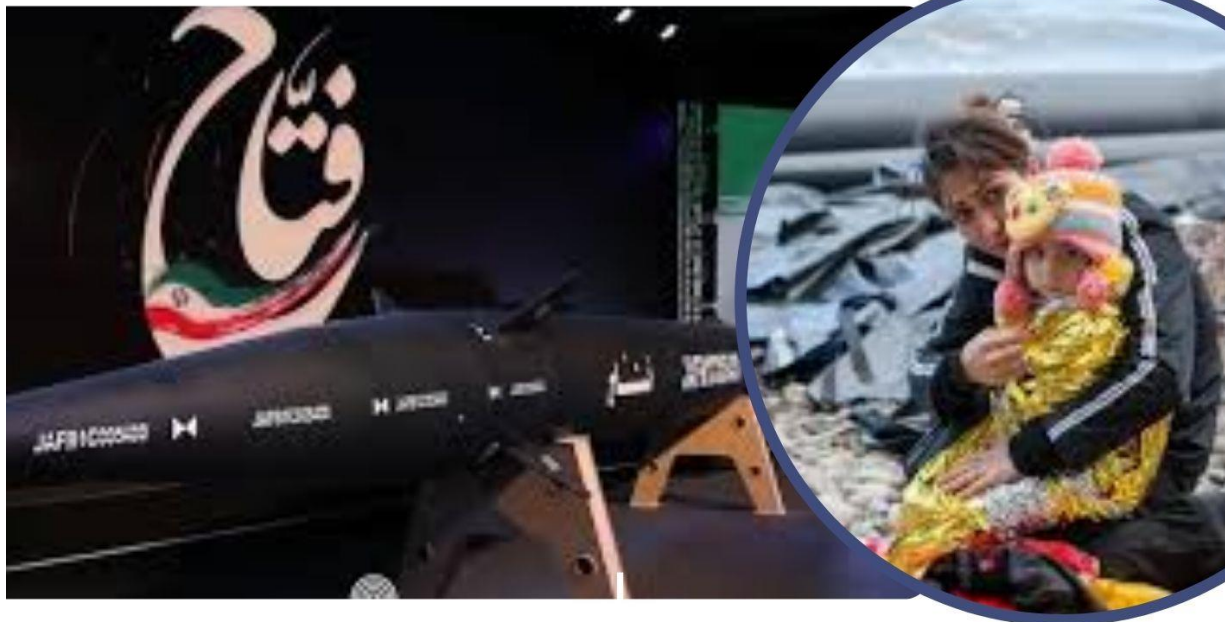
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FORESIGHT: POLICY BRIEF

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FORESIGHT: Policy Brief

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Prepared by

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INNOVATING FUTURE

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Israel's 2024 Ground Invasion of Lebanon: Strategic Failures and Hezbollah's Escalating Resistance

Description:

Israel's ground invasion of Lebanon in 2024 aimed to push Hezbollah's forces away from border



with Israel and dismantle Hezbollah's military to reestablish the settlements disturbed because of Hezbollah's continued military operations on the northern border. However, the operation has faced significant challenges and is widely considered a failure in terms of achieving its objectives as of yet,

Israeli forces have been unable into entering and occupying any major area near border with Lebanon.

Hezbollah's Role in the War and Impact on Isarel:

Since October 8, 2023, Hezbollah has significantly escalated its involvement in the conflict, launching numerous attacks against Israeli targets to support Hamas and the Palestinians in Gaza. Reportedly, Hezbollah has fired more than 8,000 rockets into Israel with many attacks being successful and caused damage. Hezbollah has carried out daily operations, with the highest number of attacks in a single day reaching 34. In one of latest attacks, Hezbollah used more advanced drone which infiltrated inside Israeli territory and exploded at Golani Brigade's base some 40 miles deeper into Israel. This attack not just demonstrate Hezbollah's advanced weaponry and strong network of intelligence collection but also demonstrated the fact that Hezbollah is still strong. The attack killed 4 Israeli soldiers and injured 60 plus. Moreover, these military actions have forced Israel to divert a significant amount of its forces, air force and defense system to guard north and engage with Hezbollah as the continued operations by Hezbollah has displaced some 60,000 Israeli settlers near Lebanon border.

Daniel Sobelman, an international security expert at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, talking about attack on Golani Brigade's base, he told CNN. "It is a clear indication that Hezbollah is regaining its strategic balance following the recent devastating blows to its leadership and command and control apparatuses." CNN, 14 october, 2024)

Fighting Israel, Hezbollah has lost thousands of its soldiers including its top commanders such as Fuad Shuakr, Ibrahim Aqeel, and even the head of Hezbollah, Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah. However, the policy of engagement with Isarel on Hezbollah side has not changed even after the assassination of its

head, Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah and the pace of attacks has intensified. Following this, Isarel has started a ground invasion with sole aim of re establishing the displaced Israeli settlers to the bordering area.

Isarel's Ground Invasion in Lebanon

Isarel's ground invasion of Lebanon has resulted in a disaster as so far Israel has been unable to control any significant area or in eliminating and pushing Hezbollah forces sway from border. The intense clashes have resulted in deaths on dozens of Israeli soldiers and forced them to retreat without any major achievement.

Key Points:

1. **Limited Progress:** Israeli forces managed to advance only a short distance into Lebanese territory, encountering fierce resistance from Hezbollah fighters. The operation was marked by intense urban combat, with Israeli troops facing well-prepared and fortified positions.
2. **Hezbollah's Tactics:** Hezbollah employed guerrilla warfare techniques, including the use of booby traps, tunnels, and hit-and-run attacks. Hezbollah's active participation, strong communication, surveillance, and readiness has made it difficult for Israeli forces to achieve a decisive victory.

Israel's Policy of Decapitation, Collective Punishment, Ground Invasion analysis by Dr. Mearsheimer



Dr. Mearsheimer in one of his videos available on YouTube addressed these three policies followed by Isarel in its recent war against Palestinians and Lebanon. The Israeli strategy towards Hezbollah, as presented Dr. Mearsheimer, revolves around three key approaches, none of which seem to be successful so far. Here's a detailed breakdown of the analysis given by Dr. Mearsheimer:

1. **Decapitation Strategy:** Israel aims to eliminate Hezbollah's leadership, including Hassan Nasrallah. However, this strategy is unlikely to work, as historical examples demonstrate that assassinating leaders rarely cripples an organization. When Israel killed Nasrallah's predecessor in 1992, it led to Nasrallah's rise, who proved to be an even more effective leader. Similarly, replacing Nasrallah now may not necessarily weaken Hezbollah, given its robust structure, well-prepared fighters, and significant missile capabilities.

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2. **Punishment Strategy:** Israel has used tactics that involve heavy bombardments and civilian casualties, intending to weaken Hezbollah by pressuring the population. However, this has not succeeded either. Punishing civilians and displacing them does not lead to strategic gains and often fuels more resentment and resistance, much like in Gaza. Hezbollah continues to fire rockets into northern Israel, showing that Israel has not neutralized the group's military capabilities.
3. **Ground Invasion:** With decapitation and punishment failing, Israel's ground invasion strategy is seen as a last resort. However, it faces significant challenges. Hezbollah has prepared for such a scenario for years, supported by Iran and fortified by favorable terrain. The Israeli Defense Forces (IDF), already stretched thin from the Gaza conflict, encountered immediate resistance upon entering Lebanon. Reports of ambushes and Israeli casualties suggest that the invasion is facing serious difficulties early on. The lack of substantial media coverage of Israeli progress hints at deeper issues on the battlefield.

Media Censorship and Information Control: The Israeli press operates under strict military censorship, especially regarding sensitive operations. Reports of an ambush killing eight IDF soldiers emerged only after being cleared for publication. This level of control limits public insight into the real situation on the ground, particularly when things aren't going well for the IDF. In contrast, reports from Lebanese and regional media suggest greater IDF losses than acknowledged.

Comparisons with Past Conflicts: Drawing parallels to the U.S. approach post-9/11 and other global insurgencies, the analysis by Dr. Mearsheimer suggest that eliminating leaders or high-value targets rarely quashes movements. Whether in Iraq or law enforcement battles against drug cartels, new leaders emerge, and the organization persists.

Analysis:

Following Israel's intelligence failure in anticipating Palestinian resistance's operation of 7th October, Israel also has failed in its war against Gaza and Lebanon. The Israel intelligence community was unable to detect the operation, its planning and even execution on 7th of October which led to acknowledgment and resignation of their intelligence head. The war against Gaza had few aims and goals which included defeat of Hamas and the safe return of captives to Israel. However, after one year, Israel has failed in both military goals. Hamas is still intact and fighting both on ground and firing rockets inside Israel which clearly indicates Israel was unable to destroy Hamas arsenal and eliminate its command and control. The second goal included the safe return and so far Hamas has been able to control and keep captives which shows Israel also failed in another goal regarding Gaza. On the side with Lebanon, Israel assassinated Hezbollah head, Sayyed Hasan Nasrallah and few other major leaders of Jihadist force and thought Hezbollah has lost its organizational structural and could be defeated so it launched the recent ground invasion. However, this has been a big failure as in the case of Hamas and Gaza, Israel was able to enter and inflict some damage. But, in case of Lebanon, Israel has been unable to enter into Lebanon and has maintained presence at the border with heavy damage and casualties fighting Hezbollah. This is a big failure on Israeli side.

Israel's invasion of Lebanon and hand to hand fight with Hezbollah will be costly as Hezbollah has prepared for this scenario for a very long time. Israel's war experience with Hezbollah of 2006 still shows that Israel was even back then unable to eliminate Hezbollah. After almost 2 decades later, Hezbollah has grown tremendously both in terms of military personnel as well as in its arsenal. Hezbollah has more advanced weaponry which includes GPS guided missiles and advanced drones. Israel will face

significant challenges in Lebanon contrary to how it is perceived by Israel or international media as a easy thing.

Conclusion

In conclusion, according to Dr. Mearsheimer, Israel's current strategies toward Hezbollah—decapitation, punishment, and ground invasion—are ineffective and failed at large level. The policies failed in Gaza and are failing in Lebanon as well. Unlike Hamas, Hezbollah is well-prepared and have waited for years for this ground invasion to happen and fight Israel. Hezbollah is still able to launch attacks on northern Israel with an average of 150 rockets per day deeper into Israel and has caused significant losses into Israeli ranks. The media blackout on Israeli losses and progress, as mentioned by Dr. Mearsheimer, combined with Netanyahu's uncertain political and military objectives, leaves Israel in a precarious situation. Without a viable strategy, the conflict appears unlikely to resolve in Israel's favor.

Iran's October 1st Retaliation: Missile Strikes, Deterrence, and Strategic Warning to Israel

Description:

Following the assassination of Hamas head Ismail Haniyah in Tehran, and the targeted killing of Hezbollah's head Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah by an Israeli airstrike on September 27, 2024, Iran launched a significant retaliatory attack with 180 ballistic and hypersonic missiles against Israel on October 1, 2024. The Strike targeted three major strategic areas of Nevatim Airbase, Tel Nof Air Base and the Mossad HQ near Tel Aviv. This attack was not only a response to Nasrallah's death but also aimed at re-establishing deterrence and demonstrating Iran's capability to retaliate forcefully



Nevatim airbase was struck several times by Iranian missiles. Photograph: Planet Labs Inc/Reuters

Iranian Retaliation

On October 1, 2024, Iran launched a significant missile attack on Israel, using advanced weaponry capable of evading the installed defense systems of Israel such as Arrow, David Sling and Iron Dome.

This retaliatory strike was in retaliation for the killing of Hezbollah leader Hassan Nasrallah and Ismail Haniyah who was assassinated in Tehran.

Details of the Attack

- **Scale:** Iran fired at least 180 ballistic missiles at Israel. This unprecedented attack led millions of Israeli civilians to seek protection in bomb shelters. Iran used its ballistic missiles as well as more advanced hypersonic Fatah missile capable of evading defense systems of Israel.
- **Targets:** The missiles targeted various strategic locations across Israel. The major targeted included Nevatim Air Base, Tel Nof Base, and Mossad HQ in Tel Aviv. These bases were

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reportedly used in assassination of the Hezbollah leader and had stationed Israel's most advanced F-35 fighter jets.

- **Casualties and Damage:** The attack resulted in significant damage to the infrastructure with the Guardian reporting about 34 direct impacts on the Nevatim air base after analyses of the satellite images. The missile resulted in no deaths for the attack only targeted military infrastructure and bases concerning military. Iranian officials claimed the next attack would be severe if Israel retaliates.

Establishing Deterrence

Iran restored Credibility by launching a large-scale retaliatory strike with direct impacts on key military strategic areas, this showed Iran has will and resources to attack anywhere it wants. Moreover, the attack demonstrated Iran's ability to inflict significant damage on Israel, thereby reinforcing its deterrence posture

Escalation to De-escalate:

Iran's military attack against Israel aimed at restricting Israel's growing controllable behavior of targeting everything and everywhere. Israel was violently targeting different countries with aim of expanding the war, however, with this Iranian attack and the signaling by Iranians that if you go on further, the consequences for you will also be bitter as we can hit you. Moreover, the Iran's response was calibrated to inflict substantial damage while avoiding a full-scale war. This approach aimed to force Israel to reconsider further aggressive actions without pushing the conflict into an uncontrollable escalation.

Additionally, this attack also served as a message to the international community, highlighting the risks of continued Israeli aggression and the potential for broader regional instability.

Conclusion

The October 1, 2024, missile attack by Iran on Israel represents Iran's credibility, capability and will to retaliate against any provocation and violation by Israel. Iran has set rules of engagement against any adversary and followed the same rules. If attacked again, Iran will retaliate to establish and continue the deterrence but any repeated actions of attacks by Israel might result in a severe response by Iran which Iran has avoided so far. If Israel does not stop and attacks Iran in response, the region might go to a state where avoiding a regional conflict would be impossible.

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Pakistan All Parties Conference (07 October 2024)

Description

On October 7, 2024, representatives of various major political parties in Pakistan organized “All Parties Conference” to address the ongoing Israel’s genocide campaign in Palestine and invasion of Lebanon and present their collective stance on the issue. The conference presented a unified stance of solidarity with Palestinians and showed support of the nation for Palestinians and Lebanon.



Text of the Declaration:

DECLARATION ADOPTED BY ALL PARTIES CONFERENCE

(07 October 2024)

We, the representatives of the political parties of Pakistan, representing a cross-section of Pakistani society, met today to express the following with one voice:

We state our deep concern at the continuing brutal aggression and genocide being committed by Israel against the Palestinians, despite repeated calls for ceasefire from the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), UN General Assembly, UN Security Council, the International Court of Justice (ICJ), and the international community;

We express our profound alarm at the impunity with which Israel is expanding the war theatre and threatening regional peace and security, and its continued violations of international law and the UN Charter, including its recent aggression against Lebanon, attacks in the West Bank, the assassinations of Hamas leader in Tehran, and the Secretary General of Hezbollah in Lebanon which constitutes a threat to regional peace and security;

We express our unwavering support for the inalienable right of the people of Palestine and Kashmir to self-determination; and for the relevant OIC and UN resolutions on Palestine that call for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from the occupied Palestinian territories, and for a peaceful and negotiated solution to the conflict;

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Recalling the resolution titled “Condemnation of Israeli oppression and Brutality against people of Palestine” adopted by the National Assembly of Pakistan in its session held on 2nd August 2024, as well as other relevant resolutions adopted by the Parliament of Pakistan;

this All-Parties Conference;

1. **Expresses** its unequivocal condemnation in the strongest possible terms of Israel’s genocidal campaign that has resulted in the loss of over 42,000 lives, mostly women and children, as well as grievous injury to over 96,000 Palestinians, in addition to the widespread destruction and displacement of nearly the entire population of Gaza;

2. **Condemns** Israeli attacks against schools, hospitals, places of worship, shelters and refugee camps and *its killing of aid workers and journalists in unprecedented numbers and in complete violation of international humanitarian law*;

3. **Demands** an immediate and unconditional ceasefire and end to brutalities against the Palestinian people; lifting of the siege of Gaza; provision of unimpeded humanitarian, and medical aid; and to hold Israel accountable for its violations of international law, war crimes and acts of genocide;

4. **Urges** the international community to take urgent measures to prevent Israel from further undermining regional peace and stability, including the prevention of Israeli aggression against Lebanon and other regional countries;

5. **Expresses** full support for the ongoing political and diplomatic efforts by the OIC, the League of Arab States, the United Nations, and other brotherly countries in addressing the prevailing situation in Occupied Palestine, as well as for the peace and stability of the broader region;

6. **Calls on** the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to convene an Emergency Summit to discuss the situation in Palestine, Israel’s brutal aggression in the region and its implications for regional peace and security and underscores the need for unity of the Islamic Ummah;

7. **Calls for** full implementation of the UN General Assembly resolution ES-10/24 of 18 September 2024, which, inter alia, demands an end to Israeli occupation; the provisional measures by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) that call for preventing Israel from committing further acts of genocide against the Palestinian people; as well as ICJ’s Advisory Opinion of 19 July 2024 that reaffirms the illegality of the Israeli occupation;

8. **Recalls** the Joint Communiqué of the Arab-Islamic summit of 11th of November 2023 that called for all countries to stop exporting weapons and ammunition to the Israeli occupation authorities;

9. **Expresses** its support to the role of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Refugees (UNRWA) in providing relief to the Palestinian people;

10. **Affirms** Pakistan’s determination to redouble its efforts for all possible political, diplomatic, moral and humanitarian support for the brotherly people of Palestine;

11. **Appreciates** the dispatch of 10 consignments of humanitarian aid from Pakistan for the people of Gaza, and medical relief assistance for the people of Lebanon; and urges continued humanitarian aid to the brotherly people of Palestine, *including educational opportunities for Palestinian students and medical treatment of wounded Palestinian children in Pakistan*;

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12. **Declares** unwavering support for the realization of the right to self-determination and other fundamental rights of the Palestinian people, as well as for the *establishment of a viable, secure, contiguous, and sovereign State of Palestine, with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital*, as well as for the State of Palestine's full UN membership;

13. **Calls on** the government of Pakistan to continue extending political, diplomatic and humanitarian support to the brotherly people of Palestine and to support diplomatic efforts for bringing an end to the genocide in Gaza;

14. **Decides** to observe, *with special fervor*, 29 November 2024 as a *Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People*.

15. **Strongly reaffirms** the right of the people of Kashmir to self-determination and call for the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir Dispute in accordance with the wishes of Kashmiri people and the relevant resolutions of UNSC.

This resolution is hereby passed by the All-Parties Conference held in Islamabad on 07 October, 2024.

Key Points of the Declaration

1. **Condemnation of Israeli Actions:** The declaration unequivocally condemns Israel's actions, describing them as genocidal and resulting in significant loss of life and widespread destruction in Gaza. It highlights the deaths of over 42,000 Palestinians, mostly women and children, and injuries to over 96,000 individuals.
2. **Violation of International Law:** The declaration criticizes Israel for its continued violations of international law and the UN Charter, including recent aggressions against Lebanon and attacks in the West Bank.
3. **Support for Palestinian and Kashmiri Self-Determination:**
The declaration reaffirms support for the inalienable right of the people of Palestine and Kashmir to self-determination, in line with relevant OIC and UN resolutions.
4. **Call for Ceasefire and Humanitarian Aid:** The declaration demands an immediate and unconditional ceasefire, lifting of the siege of Gaza, and provision of unimpeded humanitarian and medical aid. It also calls for holding Israel accountable for its actions.
5. **International Community's Role:** The declaration urges the international community to take urgent measures to prevent further Israeli aggression and to support peace and stability in the region.
6. **Support for Diplomatic Efforts:** The declaration expresses full support for ongoing political and diplomatic efforts by the OIC, the League of Arab States, the United Nations, and other countries to address the situation in Palestine.
7. **Emergency Summit:** The declaration calls on the OIC to convene an emergency summit to discuss the situation in Palestine and Israel's actions in the region.
8. **Implementation of UN Resolutions:**
The declaration calls for the full implementation of relevant UN resolutions, including the demand for an end to Israeli occupation and adherence to ICJ advisory opinions.

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9. **Humanitarian Aid and Support:** The declaration appreciates Pakistan's dispatch of humanitarian aid to Gaza and Lebanon and urges continued support for the Palestinian people, including educational opportunities and medical treatment for wounded children.
10. **Solidarity with Palestinian People:** The declaration decides to observe November 29, 2024, as a Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.
11. **Support for Kashmir:** The declaration reaffirms the right of the people of Kashmir to self-determination and calls for the settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UNSC resolutions.

Conclusion

The “All-Parties Conference” reflected the unified stance of Pakistani nation and showed support for the people of Lebanon and Palestine. The declaration clearly supported the self determination right of Palestinians and Kashmiris against occupational forces and called for diplomatic efforts to resolve the issues to achieve stability and peace in the region.

Escalating Conflict in Gaza and Lebanon: A Growing Refugee Crisis in Europe

Description



Lebanon Refuge Camps, VOA Picture

The ongoing conflict between Israel, Gaza, and Lebanon is rapidly worsening. Israel has increased its military operations in Gaza with heavy bombings and ground invasions. This has caused large-scale destruction, affecting key infrastructure, homes, and even refugee camps. In Gaza's Jabalia refugee camp, many people have been killed, and thousands are being forced to flee their homes.

Similarly, the situation in Lebanon is deteriorating, particularly in southern Beirut, where Israeli attacks have caused heavy casualties and damage. The strikes and following ground invasion in Lebanon are presenting a worsening situation. This Israel's ongoing genocidal campaign in Gaza and Lebanon is causing immense suffering in both Gaza and Lebanon with millions displaced and thousands already dead including a major portion of children and women.

Threat of a Refugee Crisis in Europe

This violence in Gaza and Lebanon is expected to push many people to flee to Europe. Already dealing with migration issues, Europe could see a surge of refugees from these regions. The European Union (EU) has been criticized for not having strong enough policies to manage migration and asylum seekers. With ongoing conflicts and climate change, the number of displaced people worldwide is rising, and this military campaign by Israel could worsen the situation even more.

A new wave of refugees could bring political, social, and economic challenges for Europe. Countries might find it difficult to accommodate and support the sudden influx, leading to potential tensions within the EU. On the humanitarian side, thousands of displaced people will need food, shelter, and medical care. Interestingly, Europe stands second in supporting the ongoing military campaign of Israel in Gaza and Lebanon by supporting with military equipment and political support.

European support for the Israel's genocidal campaign could endanger European stability as thousands might leave these states and head to the Europe. On one hand, Europe has given funds to Lebanon for border control and taking care of refugees, and on other hand, Europe is also supporting the regime in Israel in its military actions which now is impacting Lebanon. The conflict with Lebanon has escalated over the past few weeks and could turn into a full fledged war if not stopped. The consequences

of this conflict for Europe will result in huge refugees which it has previously tried to minimize by funding Lebanon.

Europe's Funding in Lebanon to Half Refugee Influx

In 2024, the European Union significantly increased its financial aid to Lebanon to help manage the refugee crisis and prevent asylum seekers from entering Europe. The EU announced a total aid package of €1 billion. This funding is focused on strengthening Lebanon's border control and offering humanitarian assistance to those affected by the ongoing conflict.

Alongside this, the EU has allocated an additional €100 million in humanitarian aid to Lebanon. This amount is designated for meeting the most urgent needs, such as providing shelter, food, protection, and healthcare for refugees and displaced people.

These efforts show the EU's concerns and the need to addressing the reasons behind migration and supporting Lebanon, which hosts a large number of refugees. This recent conflict, if not stopped could threaten these investments and result in influx of refugees into Europe.

Conclusion

The rising conflict in Gaza and Lebanon threatens not just the region but could also lead to a major refugee crisis in Europe. The international community needs to take urgent steps toward peace while Europe must be prepared for the incoming wave of refugees, ensuring their basic needs are met and policies are in place for their proper integration.

Successful SCO Meeting in Islamabad - A Pathway to Future Opportunities

Introduction



Pakistan at the critical junction of changing global security and economic dynamics, hosted the (SCO) Shanghai Cooperation of Organization's Heads of Government Meeting in Islamabad, and is seen as a major diplomatic achievement. Pakistan, as the host country, showcased effective leadership and diplomatic skill, helping discussions toward improving regional cooperation and economic integration. The meeting highlighted shared priorities among member states and set the stage for new initiatives that hold promise for the region. The meeting in a broader perspective, highlighted Pakistan's evolving role in SCO, capability to host international events such as this meeting which brought together major countries together and could pay the way for regional connectivity, economic growth and resolving of security issues such as that of Afghanistan.

Key Outcomes

1. Strengthened Regional Cooperation:

The meeting emphasized the need for stronger collaboration among member states to tackle shared challenges such as terrorism, extremism, and organized crime. Pakistan took a leading role in advocating for transport links, energy cooperation and digital connectivity,

2. Economic Integration:

A central focus of the meeting was the commitment to deepen economic ties within the SCO. Pakistan successfully pushed for initiatives aimed at boosting trade and investment. The emphasize on infrastructure development and energy projects underscored the economic potential of the region and highlighted SCO's strategic importance. Among other issues, use of one currency was also addressed and acknowledged by Pakistani prime minister which shows an

easier way of trade and connectivity and helps in mitigating the challenges and disruptions caused by current global economic system.

3. Pakistan's Soft Image:

Events such as this could and have played an important role in shaping states' image at international level. Pakistan despite of numerous challenges successfully hosted countries such as Russia, China, India, Iran and many other growing and established economies – This will have a significant impact on the overall image of Pakistan as an active state of SCO and a reliable partner considering the fact that Pakistan has a geo strategically and geo economically very important place intersection at South Asia, Central Asia, and Middle East. This place could help the states of the region in better connectivity and more trade options.

"Growing consensus among the member states on the use of mutual currencies for settlements is a promising development. The SCO interbank union is an appropriate forum to address banking challenges and moving towards settlement with mutual currencies will shield us from global financial disruptions,"

Prime Minister of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan

Pakistan's Leadership

Pakistan's leadership during the SCO meeting earned widespread recognition. Through a proactive stance on key issues, the country demonstrated its commitment to regional harmony. Prime Minister [Your PM's Name] highlighted the importance of unity and collective action, setting a collaborative tone for the discussions. Pakistan's vision for peace, security, and economic prosperity resonated well with the member states, solidifying its leadership role within the SCO.

Future Opportunities

1. Economic Growth:

The outcomes of the meeting present new economic growth opportunities, with potential for enhanced trade routes, infrastructure projects, and energy collaboration across the region. These developments are likely to increase economic activity not only within Pakistan but also throughout the entire SCO area.

2. Strategic Partnerships:

Pakistan's role as a driving force in the meeting has opened up pathways for deeper strategic partnerships with SCO member states. Strengthened cooperation on security and economic issues is expected to enhance political and diplomatic ties, leading to more collaborative solutions to regional challenges.

3. Regional Stability:

The shared focus on combating terrorism and extremism, along with fostering cultural understanding, is expected to contribute to greater regional stability. Pakistan's proactive role as both a mediator and facilitator of these discussions positions it as a key player in maintaining peace and development in the region.

Conclusion

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The successful SCO meeting in Islamabad highlighted Pakistan's leadership in fostering regional cooperation and integration. The outcomes point toward future opportunities in economic development, stronger strategic partnerships, and regional stability. Pakistan's forward-looking approach and commitment to addressing regional challenges have positioned it as a cornerstone for peace and progress in the SCO region.

Message from CPGS President, Nasir Abbas Shirazi:



At the Centre for Pakistan and Gulf Studies (CPGS), we recognize the ever-evolving complexities of West Asia's political, security, and diplomatic environments. In response to these dynamics, we are committed to providing critical analysis and insights that inform decision-making at all levels. Our **fortnightly publication, FORESIGHT: Policy Brief**, serves as a focused platform where rigorous research is translated into concise, actionable recommendations, aiming to influence policymakers, scholars, and

stakeholders.

In today's interconnected world, the challenges we face in West Asia—whether geopolitical conflicts, security dilemmas, or diplomatic tensions—require a deep understanding and timely response. With FORESIGHT, we aspire to filter the noise, delivering clear, research-backed guidance that helps navigate these complexities. Through our research efforts, we not only highlight current happenings but also look to anticipate future trends and opportunities, driving thoughtful engagement with the region's ongoing developments.

I believe that by engaging in this dialogue, we can equip policymakers, academia, and the wider public with the tools and insights necessary for informed decision-making. Together, we can create pathways towards a more stable and prosperous region.”

This expanded message emphasizes CPGS's role in delivering critical and timely insights and the broader goal of fostering informed decision-making and understanding in the West Asia region.

Mr. Nasir Abbas Shirazi

President Centre for Pakistan and Gulf Studies



ABOUT CPGS

CPGS IS A NON-PARTISAN LEADING RESEARCH INSTITUTE ESTABLISHED TO UNDERTAKE RESEARCH ON GLOBAL SECURITY, GEOPOLITICS, PEACE BUILDING AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION. THE CENTRE AIMS TO PROMOTE AN ALTERNATIVE PERSPECTIVE IN ADVANCING THE CAUSE OF PEACE THROUGH POLICY ANALYSIS AND DIRECT ENGAGEMENT WITH DECISION MAKERS IN GOVERNMENT, CIVIL SOCIETY AND ACADEMIA; ASSESS EMERGING TRENDS AT REGIONAL AND GLOBAL LEVEL AND DEVISE STRATEGIES FOR ADDRESSING POSSIBLE FUTURE CHALLENGES. THE CENTRE REGULARLY CONDUCTS SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS, ROUNDTABLES AND CONFERENCES WITH DIGNITARIES, ACADEMICS AND EXPERTS FROM EVERY WALK OF LIFE, IN ORDER TO ACTIVELY PROMOTE REGIONAL HARMONY, GLOBAL PEACE, SECURITY AND STABILITY BY MAKING SUBSTANTIVE INTELLECTUAL, ACADEMIC AND DIPLOMATIC CONTRIBUTIONS. THE CENTRE AIMS TO HARNESS THE IMMENSE POTENTIAL FOR INCREASING COOPERATION IN THE REGION TO ATTAIN PEACE, SECURITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TO ASSESS EMERGING TRENDS IN REGIONAL POLICIES AND DEVISE FUTURE STRATEGIES.



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