



### For Better Understanding on

## China-Pakistan and CPEC

# Gleanings from the National & Chinese Press

June 16-30, 2025

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#### June 16, 2025

#### **K2 Daily**



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#### June 17, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### From globalism to regionalism

Advocate A D Dero

From the 15th century, the world was under the colonial rule of Western powers across Africa, Asia and Latin America until the 20th century—plundering resources by all means, fragmenting values and cultures, altering religions and dismantling societies under the imperialist colonial system.

Instead of bipolarity, the power structure of the world has now shifted to multipolarity, reflecting a mixed and balanced distribution of power among regional powers—China in Asia, the EU in Europe.

Ruslan Abdulgani of Indonesia, a lifelong symbol of resistance against colonialism and imperialism and the 9th Foreign Minister of Indonesia, gathered 29 independent states to forge solidarity, unity and hope in the post-colonial world.

Post-colonialism analyzes the long-term effects of colonial rule on various aspects of life, including culture, politics and economics.

The agenda of the Bandung Conference aimed to steer away from bloc politics and instead work for cultural and economic cooperation, rejecting the high moon of Cold War-tier domination or division.

Five principles were set down: peaceful coexistence, mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression and non-interference in internal affairs.

Under globalism, institutions like the United Nations, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) were created for economic cooperation, peace

and global governance, along with organizations like NATO and the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

Regionalism is a broader concept that encompasses the political, economic and cultural integration of regions.

It can manifest in various forms—such as economic unions, political alliances, cultural collaborations and shared opportunities.

Article 40 of the Constitution of Pakistan declares that the state shall endeavor to preserve and strengthen fraternal relations among Muslim countries based on Islamic unity, support the common interest of the people of Asia, Africa and Latin America, promote international peace and security, foster goodwill and friendly relations among all nations and encourage the resolution of international disputes by peaceful means.

A perfect example of the term "globalism" describes a common identity based on distant characteristics such as language, culture, history and food habits.

The recent political kinesiology of the world has shifted to regionalism as a driving principle in international relations.

Saudi Arabia's diplomatic gesture towards Iran and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) initiatives aimed at resolving internal disputes demonstrate a new practical approach that prioritizes local solutions—even as broader unity remains out of reach.

The United States reigned supreme as a superpower in a unipolar world.

It forecast its dominance through economic leadership, military might, cultural influence and control over global financial institutions—namely the World Bank, IMF and NATO.

Africa is now on an ambitious journey toward regional integration with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which aims to establish a single market across 54 nations—African solutions for African problems.

Changing World Order and Pakistani Position?

As a decisive state in South Asia, Pakistan stands at the mind-bender of the global strategic hamster cage.

Its role in the new order depends on how it channelizes shifting alliances.

China's BRI and CPEC—its marvelous feat projects—aggrandize Pakistan's geoeconomic utmost gravity.

Pakistan must choose the path to progress, not bloc politics, amid the rising US-China rivalry and pursue neutrality.

https://pakobserver.net/from-globalism-to-regionalism/?utm\_source

#### June 18, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **CPEC** boosts geo-economic stature of Pakistan

Muhammad Zamir Assadi

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), the flagship project of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), has emerged as a beacon of regional connectivity, economic revitalization and strategic partnership between China and Pakistan.

Since its inception, CPEC has not only brought substantial foreign direct investment (FDI) into Pakistan totalling over USD 25 billion but has also paved the way for inclusive development across multiple sectors of the Pakistani economy.

One of the most remarkable achievements of CPEC is the transformation of Gwadar Port.

Once a quiet fishing town, Gwadar is now envisioned as a bustling trade hub that links China with South Asia, Central Asia and the Middle East and beyond.

The port, a key node in the maritime component of the BRI has significantly enhanced Pakistan's geo-economic stature.

To support Gwadar's growth, CPEC facilitated the development of the Gwadar International Airport poised to become an aviation hub in the region.

Its strategic location offers new prospects for air logistics and international trade routes, thereby integrating Pakistan more deeply into the global trade system.

Beyond physical infrastructure, CPEC is equally invested in human resource development.

A network of vocational training centres has been established to equip Pakistan's workforce with the skills needed to participate in and benefit from industrial and technological growth.

This emphasis on labour training reflects a shared vision to create opportunities at the grassroots level by empowering local communities and reducing unemployment.

CPEC has now entered a new and exciting phase that is Phase 2.0 marked by high-level engagements, technology transfer and socio-economic development.

This phase reflects a maturing partnership between China and Pakistan emphasizing sustainability, innovation and shared growth.

A key pillar of this phase is the transfer of technology.

Both nations are actively working on agreements that will bring advanced Chinese technologies to Pakistan by fostering innovation in agriculture, manufacturing and services.

Such initiatives aim to enhance productivity, diversify exports and uplift local industries.

Agriculture, a backbone of Pakistan's economy is set to benefit immensely under the new roadmap being prepared under CPEC Phase 2.0.

Efforts are underway to boost agricultural exports to China, modernize farming techniques and introduce Chinese agricultural machinery and technology to Pakistani farmers.

This development will not only ensure food security but also create significant export opportunities for Pakistan in the Chinese and global markets.

CPEC's Phase-2 emphasizes agricultural modernization through technology transfer, improved irrigation systems and advanced farming techniques.

Joint ventures aim to boost crop yields, ensure food security and increase exports to China.

Special focus on agri-based Special Economic Zones and training programs is helping uplift rural communities, enhance productivity and integrate Pakistan's agriculture into global value chains.

These initiatives under CPEC are fostering innovation in seed development, pest control and post-harvest management.

With support from Chinese expertise, Pakistan is also advancing in precision agriculture and mechanization.

This comprehensive approach is expected to significantly uplift farmer incomes and reduce rural poverty, ensuring long-term agricultural sustainability and resilience in the face of climate change.

CPEC has already helped alleviate Pakistan's chronic energy shortages through the successful completion of multiple energy projects.

Moving forward, the focus has shifted to hydropower, a clean and renewable source of energy.

Several projects are in the pipeline to meet the future industrial demands of a rapidly developing Pakistan.

By ensuring a stable energy supply, CPEC continues to lay the foundation for sustainable industrialization.

Infrastructure remains a critical component of CPEC's vision.

Work continues on key road and railway projects improving internal connectivity and reducing logistical bottlenecks.

Among them, the ML-1 railway project stands out as a strategic priority.

Once completed, this railway upgrade will transform Pakistan's rail infrastructure, reduce travel time and facilitate smoother movement of goods and people.

These developments are crucial not just for Pakistan but for the entire region, opening new avenues of sustainable and prosperous development.

The establishment of Special Economic Zones (SEZs) under CPEC is another key milestone.

These zones are being designed to attract both Chinese and international investment in industries such as food processing, textile manufacturing, agricultural machinery and consumer goods.

The SEZs will not only generate employment but also serve as engines of export-led growth, further reducing Pakistan's trade deficit and integrating its economy with global value chains.

The journey of CPEC is a testament to the deep-rooted friendship and strategic trust between China and Pakistan.

With both countries reaffirming their commitment to CPEC, the corridor stands as a model of cooperation under the Belt and Road framework.

As CPEC advances into its next phase, it symbolizes a shared aspiration for inclusive development, mutual respect and regional peace.

It reflects China's belief in development through connectivity and Pakistan's resolve to uplift its people through strategic collaboration.

The progress achieved so far from the transformation of Gwadar to breakthroughs in energy and infrastructure is only the beginning.

The future holds even greater promise with innovations in technology, green energy and economic diversification leading the way.

In a world facing economic uncertainty, CPEC shines as a beacon of hope and opportunity proving that when nations work together with sincerity and vision, transformative change becomes not just possible but inevitable.

https://pakobserver.net/cpec-boosts-geo-economic-stature-of-pakistan/

#### Pakistan Observer

#### **BRI** and International Transformation: An Expert Opinion

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

Evidently, the Chinese BRI has become the only credible "refuge" for regional as well as international economic recovery and sustainability in the global supply chains.

The ongoing US unilateral trade and tariffs war has already produced "wrinkles" around the globe, demanding a just, fair, transparent and equal global governance and international trading system.

Meanwhile, numerous international publications and reports from the IMF, World Bank and ADB have already dubbed the BRI as the biggest project of the 21st century, geared towards immense socio-economic development, promoting trans-regional connectivity and supporting world-class infrastructure and hybrid agriculture.

However, bitter socio-economic acts of whims and hegemonic geopolitical maneuverings, alongside manipulated geo-strategic power plays, have targeted the pace, productivity and prosperity of the BRI in Africa, South Asia, Latin America and Southeast Asia.

It appears that a new international transformation is being orchestrated in the Middle East, pushing for a so-called "new Middle East" that gives superior geopolitical space and strategic status to Israel, the USA's key ally, over other regional powers.

The ongoing Israel-Iran war is considered a giant step in that transformation, aiming to make Israel a regional leader despite its overt aggression and persistent human rights violations against Palestinians.

Israel and its IDF have launched numerous attacks on Iran, targeting civilians, infrastructure and strategic sites like Chabahar and Bandar Abbas—acts that reflect state terrorism.

Iran, a BRI member and strategic Chinese partner, maintains close cooperation with China in investment, joint ventures and security.

In response to rising tensions, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi urged restraint in calls to his Iranian and Israeli counterparts.

Statements from both Chinese and Pakistani foreign ministries in support of Iran have been seen as a moral victory for Tehran, highlighting the rising strategic convergence under BRI.

Most recently, frequent attacks on BRI and CPEC-related development projects have raised alarm, especially amidst Pakistan-India tensions and the Israel-Iran conflict.

These threats now require a strategic revision in how BRI and CPEC are operationalized—shifting from mere development to deterrence.

Economic security has become critical and must be integrated into all ongoing CPEC and BRI projects.

Unfortunately, both projects have been labelled threats to regional and global economic dominance by the West, especially the US.

Regional actors like RAW, Mossad, TTP, BLA and other militant groups are reportedly targeting BRI operations in Balochistan and elsewhere, while sabotage activities in Africa and Latin America show signs of Western involvement aiming to push out Chinese investors.

The recent visit of the US President to the Middle East was a strategic move in economic diplomacy aimed at aligning with regional partners such as Saudi Arabia, the UAE and Qatar.

The goal appeared to be undermining China's economic role in the region.

However, a deeper look at US geo-economic actions shows a hidden agenda of empowering Israel through normalization and improved ties, while addressing irritants like the Iranian nuclear program and the Houthis.

These moves serve to boost Israeli regional supremacy under the guise of regional peace and economic collaboration.

The writer maintains that there has been no real shift in the US Administration's Middle East policy under Trump.

From the Abraham Accords to the so-called "Deal of the Century," US foreign policy has consistently supported Israel's expansionist agenda and military aggression against Palestinians.

Though at times the US and Israel appeared misaligned—particularly on issues like the Palestinian refugee crisis or humanitarian governance in Gaza—these differences were largely superficial.

In truth, the US has backed Israel militarily and diplomatically, especially during the ongoing conflict with Iran.

Furthermore, the US government's use of its veto power at the UN Security Council and other forums—such as the ICJ and the UN Human Rights Commission—has obstructed peace efforts.

It has blocked resolutions for ceasefires, humanitarian aid and disarmament, particularly those sponsored by China.

These actions have revealed the US's hidden agenda: to support Israel at all costs while undermining multilateralism, peaceful coexistence and a just global order.

In doing so, the US has propelled the world towards an obsessive, unjust system dominated by force rather than diplomacy.

The US's continued military and financial support to Israel, along with its manipulation of international platforms, demonstrates prejudice, bigotry and strategic hypocrisy.

The writer concludes that Trump's foreign policy has been pro-Israel and anti-China. His recent Middle East trip only confirmed his unwavering support for Israel and his role in deepening the regional divide—using economic diplomacy as a cover for geopolitical realignment. On the other hand, comparative studies of the BRI since its inception suggest it has become a cornerstone of international development.

Launched in response to a world facing instability and uncertainty, the BRI has emerged as a major driver of connectivity, resilience and shared progress.

With participation from over 150 countries and 30 international organizations, the BRI has enabled more than 3,000 cooperative projects worldwide—demonstrating its strategic value, inclusive framework and transformative power for sustainable development.

Projects like the Jakarta-Bandung High-Speed Railway in Indonesia, port development in Africa, energy networks in Central Asia, infrastructure advancement in South Asia and green transformation in the Middle East exemplify the BRI's contributions.

These initiatives are accelerating economic growth, generating employment, enhancing trade and improving livelihoods.

The BRI has cultivated partnerships rooted in equality and mutual respect, allowing countries to align development strategies, boost both hard and soft connectivity and strengthen global supply chain resilience—proving itself a pillar of cooperative progress in a changing world.

https://pakobserver.net/bri-and-international-transformation-an-expert-opinion/

#### **Jang News**

#### پاک چین 5سالہ ٹیکنالوجی و مہارت کا تاریخی معاہدہ

اسلام آباد(نامہ نگار خصوصی)پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان ٹیکنالوجی منتقلی اور صنعتی مہارت کے فروغ کے لیے پانچ سالہ تاریخی معاہدہ طے پاگیا ہے۔ یہ اہم پیشرفت ایس آئی ایف سی (اسپیشل انویسٹمنٹ فسیلیٹیشن کونسل) کے تحت پاک چین صنعتی تعاون کا حصہ ہے، جس کا مقصد ملکی صنعت کو جدید خطوط پر استوار کرنا ہے۔معاہدہ پاکستان انڈسٹریل سیونگ مشینز امپورٹرز اینڈ ڈیلرز ایسوسی ایشن اور چین کی گوانگ ٹونگ شو میکنگ مشینری ایسوسی ایشن کے درمیان طے پایا۔ اس معاہدے کے تحت آئندہ 5 سالوں میں پاکستان میں جوتا سازی، چمڑے اور گارمنٹس کے شعبوں میں جدید ترین چینی مشینری اور ٹیکنالوجی متعارف کرائی جائے گی۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/913989

#### چینی کمپنی کی پاکستان میں دبئی کے ڈریگن مارٹ کی طرز پر بڑے تجارتی مرکز کے قیام کی تجویز

اسلام آباد(این این آئی)چینی کمپنی ڈونگکائی انٹرنیشنل انویسٹمنٹ کے سی ای او یاو یو نے پاکستان میں بڑے تجارتی مرکز کی طرز پر ہوگا ، چینی و پاکستانی کاروباری ''ڈریگن مارٹ'' کے قیام کی تجویز دیتے ہوئے کہا ہے کہ یہ مرکز دبئی کے اداروں کے لیے مشترکہ تجارتی مرکز کا کردار ادا کرے گا۔ گوادر پرو کے مطابق چینی کاروباری رہنماوں کا ایک وفد پاکستان کے باوسنگ اور شہری ترقی کے شعبے میں سرمایہ کاری کے امکانات کا جائزہ لینے کے لیے پاکستان پہنچا ہے، جس کا خاص زور جدید تعمیراتی ٹیکنالوجیز پر ہے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/914056

#### June 19, 2025

#### **Daily Times**

#### Pakistan-China relations to grow stronger: Chinese envoy

Ambassador of China to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong on Saturday said that Pak-China strategic cooperation would continue to deepen under the leadership of two countries.

Addressing the launching ceremony of "Embracing the Chinese New Year 2025", the ambassador said that last month, Khunjerab-Sost Pass realized the all-year-round function, becoming a landmark progress in China-Pakistan relations in the new era, and once again demonstrating the deep foundation of the ironclad friendship. He said that the Chashma Nuclear Power Plant Unit 5, which can create 40,000 jobs directly and indirectly during the peak period of construction, has officially started, showing the huge potential of practical cooperation between the two countries. Zaidong said, "We stand ready to continue to strengthen the development strategies with Pakistan, deepen mutually beneficial and win-win cooperation, forge an upgraded version of the CPEC construction, and accelerate the building of a closer China-Pakistan community of shared future in the new era, to better benefit the

two countries and their peoples." He said that in the past year, President Xi Jinping maintained close communication with the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan and reached an important consensus on promoting China-Pakistan all-weather strategic cooperation, especially on forging an upgraded version of CPEC. He said China's economy has continued to stabilize and improve. The annual GDP is expected to exceed 130 trillion Yuan. He added total grain output has reached a new level of 1.4 trillion jin for the first time, the annual output of new energy vehicles has exceeded 10 million for the first time, the annual express delivery volume surpassed the 150-billion-parcel mark for the first time, and the annual passenger volume of China's railway network has exceeded 4 billion for the first time. This is the result of joint efforts of people of all groups across China, as well as the positive contributions of overseas Chinese, including those in Pakistan, he added. Zaidong said, "I hope and firmly believe that everyone will further forge a strong sense of community of the Chinese nation, more actively support the development of China, promote China-Pakistan cooperation, and make new and greater contributions to comprehensively promoting the construction of a strong country and the great cause of national rejuvenation with Chinese modernization." He said that the embassy is the home of our compatriots overseas. "We will provide service with heart and soul so that everyone can feel the warmth of the motherland." The ambassador said, "We stand ready to provide new opportunities for the world with the new development of Chinese modernization, and first benefit to our iron friend Pakistan." He expressed gratitude to the President and Prime Minister of Pakistan for writing to President Xi Jinping on the earthquake in Dingri county, Xizang. In the letters, they expressed sincere condolences and Pakistan's willingness to provide all possible assistance, he added. "We firmly believe that regardless of sudden natural disasters or complex and severe external environments, we can overcome difficulties and move forward courageously, and continuously push forward the great cause of building a strong country and achieving national rejuvenation."

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1255502/pakistan-china-relations-to-grow-stronger-chinese-envoy/

#### K2 Daily



https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Back\_Page&Date=2025-06-19 https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2025-06-19

#### **Jang News**

#### تائیوان کے مادر وطن چین سے دوبارہ اتحاد کے بارے میں میری رائے

ژاؤ شيرين، چيني فونصل جنرل لابور

تائیوان ازل سے چین کا حصہ رہا ہے۔ اس کا چینی مادر وطن سے دوبارہ اتحاد نہ صرف 1.4ارب چینی عوام کی مشترکہ خواہش ہے بلکہ یہ تاریخ، انصاف اور وقت کے دہارے کا لازمی اور ناگزیر تقاضا بھی ہے۔تائیوان اور چینی سرزمین کے درمیان ناقابلِ انکار تعلقات مضبوط تاریخی اور قانونی بنیادوں پر قائم ہیں۔ چین کی قدیم کتب اور تاریخی ریکارڈز اس بات کی گواہی دیتے ہیں کہ چینی قوم نے ابتدائی ادوار میں تائیوان کو آباد کیا۔ حالیہ آثارِ قدیمہ کی دریافتیں بھی ان گہرے رشتوں کی توثیق کرتی ہیں۔ سب سے قدیم حوالہ سن 230 میں ریاست وو کے مورخ شین ینگ کی تحریر سی بورڈ جیوگرافک گزیٹیئر میں ملتا ہے، جب تائیوان کو الیوکیو کہا جاتا تھا۔ سوی، سونگ، یوآن اور چنگ ادوار میں چینی حکومتوں نے باقاعدہ انتظامی کنٹرول کے ذریعے تائیوان اور پنگھو کے امور سنبھالے۔ 1684 میں چنگ سلطنت نے تائیوان کو فو جیان صوبے کا حصہ بنایا، اور 1885 میں اسے چین کا 20واں صوبہ قرار دیا۔ 1662 میں جنرل ڑینگ چنگ گونگ نے ہالینڈ کے نوآبادیات کو نکالا، جبکہ 1945 میں دوسری جنگ عظیم کے بعد چین نے تائیوان پر دوبارہ خودمختاری حاصل کی۔ ان تاریخی شواہد سے ثابت ہوتا ہے کہ تائیوان ہمیشہ چین کا اٹوٹ حصہ رہا ہے یکم اکتوبر 1949 کو عوامی جمہوریہ چین کے قیام کے بعد، کوومنٹٹنگ حکومت کے انخلا کے بعد بیجنگ حکومت پورے چین، بشمول تائیوان، کی واحد قانونی حکومت بن گئی۔اس سال نہ صرف چین کی جاپانی جارحیت کے خلاف فتح، بلکہ عالمی اینٹی فاشسٹ جنگ اور تائیوان کی بازیابی کی80ویں سالگرہ بھی ہے۔ یہ تاریخ ساز کامیابیاں دوسری جنگ عظیم کے بعد کے عالمی نظام کا بنیادی حصہ ہیں۔ اسی لیے تائیوان کی حیثیت چینی سرزمین کے ایک حصے کے طور پر ہمیشہ مسلمہ رہی ہے اور رہے گی بین الاقوامی معاہدات بھی اس حقیقت کی تائید کرتے ہیں۔ یکم دسمبر 1943 کو چین، امریکہ اور برطانیہ نے مشترکہ طور پر قاہرہ اعلامیہ جاری کیا، جس میں کہا گیا کہ جاپان نے چین سے جو علاقے چھینے، جیسے تائیوان اور پنگھو جزائر، وہ چین کو واپس دیے جائیں گے۔26جولائی 1945 کے پوسڈیم اعلامیہ میں بھی ان شرائط کو دہرایا گیا۔ ستمبر میں جاپان نے ہتھیار ڈالنے کی دستاویز پر دستخط کیے اور اکتوبر میں چین نے تائیوان پر خودمختاری کے نفاذ کا اعلان کیا۔ قانونی و عملی اقدامات کے ذریعے چین نے تائیوان پر اپنا حقّ واپس لئے لیا۔1971 میں اقوامِ متحدہ کی جنرل اسمبلی نے قرارداد 2758 منظور کی، جس میں عوامی جمہوریہ چین کو چین کی واحد قانونی نمائندہ ریاست تسلیم کیا گیا، جبکہ چیانگ کائی شیک کے نمائندوں کو اقوامِ متحدہ اور اس سے وابستہ اداروں سے فوری نکالنے کا فیصلہ کیا گیا۔ اقوامِ متحدہ کے قانونی شعبے نے واضح طور پر رائے دی کہ "تائیوان چین کا صوبہ ہے آور اس کی کوئی علیحدہ حیثیت نہیں ہے"، اور "تائی ہے کی انتظامیہ کو کسی قسم کی حکومتی حیثیت حاصل نہیں"۔ اُس طرح 'دو چین' یا 'ایک چین، ایک تائیوان' جیسی کسی بھی سازش کی کوئی گنجائش باقی نہیں رہتی۔اگرچہ آبنائے تائیوان کے دونوں اطراف سیاسی اتحاد ابھی تک مکمل نہیں ہوا، لیکن ناقابل تردید حقیقت یہ ہے کہ تائیوان چین کا ہی حصہ علیحدگی پسندی کے خطرناک ایجنڈے پر (dpp) ہے ۔ حالیہ برسوں میں تائیوان میں موجود ڈیموکریٹک پروگریسو پارٹی کی خارجہ چالاکیاں اور نام dpp گامزن ہے، جو چین کی خودمختاری اور وحدت کو نقصان پہنچانے کی کوشش کر رہا ہے۔ نہاد "سفارتی اتحادی" استعمال کرنے کی کوششیں ناکام ہوں گی۔ تائیوان چین کے بنیادی قومی مفادات کا حصہ ہے اور اس پر کوئی سمجھوتہ ممکن نہیں چاکستان ہمیشہ سے تائیوان کے معاملے پر 'ایک چین پالیسی' کا پر عزم حامی رہا ہے۔ 1971 میں اقوامِ متحدہ میں چین کی سیٹ کی بحالی کے وقت پاکستان نے قرارداد 2758 کو اسپانسر کیا۔ اس موقع پر وزیر خارجہ ذوالفقار علی بھٹو نے اقوامِ متحدہ میں کہا تھا کہ "چین کی قانونی نشست کی بحالی انصاف کی فتح ہے"۔ 2005 میں چین کے انسدادِ علیحدگی قانون کی بھی پاکستان نے مکمل حمایت کی۔ آج بھی صدر آصف زرداری اور وزیر اعظم شہباز شریف واضح کر چکے ہیں کہ "پاکستان ہمیشہ تائیوان پر چین کے اصولی موقف کی حمایت کرے گا کیونکہ یہ چین کا اٹوٹ انگ ہے"۔ دونوں ممالک خودمختاری اور سالمیت کو قومی ترقی کی بنیاد سمجھتے ہیں۔ چین بھی پاکستان کی خودمختاری و ترقی کے لیے ہر ممکن مدد فراہم کرتا ہے، اور یہی فولادی دوستی کی حقیقی تصویر ہے۔چین-پاکستان اقتصادی راہداری کے آغاز سے دونوں ممالک کا اعتماد اور تعاون مزید مضبوط ہوا ہے۔ 80سال قبل چین نے جاپانی جارحیت کے خلاف عظیم فتح حاصل کی تھی، اور آج چین، پاکستان اور دنیا کے دیگر ممالک اس تاریخی کامیابی کا جشن مناتے ہوئے اقوامِ متحدہ پر مبنی عالمی نظام کے تحفظ کا عزم دہرا رہے ہیں۔آج دنیا کے183ممالک 'ایک چین پالیسی' کو تسلیم کر چکے ہیں۔ چین تائیوان کے ساتھ پر امن اتحاد کے لیے سنجیدہ اور مخلص ہے، لیکن ساتھ ہی ساتھ، چینی عوام تائیوان کی علیحدگی کے سخت خلاف ہیں، اور ضرورت پڑنے پر غیر پرامن ذرائع کے استعمال سے بھی دریغ نہیں کریں گے۔ اقوامِ متحدہ کی سلامتی کونسل میں چین واحد بڑی طاقت ہے جو تاحال مکمل اتحاد حاصل نہیں کر سکا۔ تائیوان کا مسئلہ حل کرنا، چاہے پرامن طریقے سے ہو یا کسی اور طور، چینی قوم کی نشاِط ثانیہ اور جدید ترقی کا اہم سنگ میل ہے۔ہمیں یقین ہے کہ تائیوان کا چینی مادر وطن سے دوبارہ اتحاد تاریخ کا صحیح رخ ہے، اور یہ مقدس مقصد بالآخر حاصل ہو کر رہے گا۔

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#### یاک چین تکنیکی تعاون

بیشتر ترقی یافتہ ممالک ترقی پذیر ملکوں کو اپنی مصنوعات کی منڈی بنائے رکھنے کیلئے انہیں ٹیکنالوجی منتقل کرنے سے گزیز کرتے ہیں۔ اس طرح ترقی پذیر ملک دفاعی سازوسامان اور ہر قسم کی مشینری وغیرہ کے معاملے میں ان کے محتاج رہتے ہیں۔ کوئی چیز خراب ہوجائے تو فاضل پرزوں کا اسی ملک سے خریدنا ضروری ہوتا ہے جس کی مشینری استعمال کی جارہی ہو۔ تاہم پاکستان کا عظیم ہمسایہ اور ہر موسم کا دوست عوامی جمہوریہ چین کشادہ دلی کی ساتھ ٹیکنالوجی منتقل کرکے ترقی پذیر ملکوں کو خودکفالت کی منزل کی جانب پیش قدمی میں بھرپور تعاون فراہم کرتا ہے۔ پاکستان کے ساتھ اس کرکے ترقی پذیر ملکوں کو خودکفالت کی منزل کی جانب پیش قدمی میں بھرپور تعاون فراہم کرتا ہے۔ پاکستان کے ساتھ اس حوالے سے چین نے بالخصوص غیرمعمولی روش اپنا رکھی ہے اور پاکستانی ماہرین نے بھی اس تعاون سے درست طور پر استفادہ کرکے اپنی اعلیٰ صلاحیتوں کا ثبوت دیا ہے جس کا بھرپور مظاہرہ حالیہ پاک بھارت جنگ میں پوری دنیا نے دیکھا اور اس کی داد دی۔ اس تناظر میں گزشتہ روز پاکستان اور چین کے درمیان ٹیکنالوجی منتقلی اور صنعتی مہارت کے فروغ کونسل کے تحت پاک چین صنعتی تعاون کا حصہ ہے جس کا مقصد ملکی صنعت کو جدید خطوط پر استوار کرنا ہے معاہدہ پاکستان انٹسٹریل سیونگ مشینز امپورٹرز اینڈ ڈیلرز ایسوسی ایشن اور چین کی گوانگ ڈونگ شو میکنگ مشینری ایسوسی پاکستان انٹسٹریل سیونگ مشینز امپورٹرز اینڈ ڈیلرز ایسوسی ایشن اور چین کی گوانگ ڈونگ شو میکنگ مشینری اور ٹیکنالوجی متعارف کرائی جائے گی چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان مصنوعی ذبانت، کلاؤڈ کمپیوٹنگ اور ڈیجیٹل مشینری اور ٹیکنالوجی متعارف کرائی جائے گی چین اور پاکستان کے درمیان مصنوعی ذبانت، کلاؤڈ کمپیوٹنگ اور ڈیجہ بنیں گے۔ گورننس جیسی ابھرتی ہوئی ٹیکنالوجیوں کے شعبوں میں بھی سرگرم تعاون جاری ہے جس کے باعث توقع ہے کہ ہمارے گورننس جیسی ابھرتی ہوئی ٹیکنالوجیوں کے شعبوں وطن عزیز کو جلد ترقی یافتہ ملکوں میں شامل کرنے کا ذریعہ بنیں گے۔

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#### یاکستان اور چین درمیان انجینئرنگ کی تعلیمی قابلیت کی باہمی منظوری کا معاہدہ

اسلام آباد (ساجد چوہدری )پاکستان انجینئرنگ کونسل اور چائنیز سوسائٹی آف انجینئرز کے درمیان انجینئرنگ کی تعلیمی قابلیت کی باہمی منظوری کے تاریخی معاہدے پر دستخط ہو گئے ہیں ، اس معاہدے کے تحت دونوں ممالک کے انجینئرز کو ایک دوسرے کے ہاں بغیر کسی اضافی امتحان کے پیشہ ورانہ لائسنس اور مواقع حاصل ہونگے، پاکستانی انجینئرز اب نہ صرف چین بلکہ بی آر آئی میں شامل دیگر ممالک میں بھی انفراسٹرکچر، توانائی، آئی سی ٹی اور سمارٹ سٹی جیسے صرف چین بلکہ بی آر آئی میں شامل دیگر ممالک میں بھی انفراسٹرکچر، توانائی، آئی سی ٹی اور سمارٹ سٹی جیسے منصوبوں میں کام کر سکیں گے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/914524

#### June 20, 2025

#### **K2** Daily



https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Editorial&Date=2025-06-20

#### **June 21, 2025**

#### **Business Recorder**

### Pakistan and China reaffirm high-quality CPEC development at Kunming Forum

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan and China have reaffirmed commitment to the high-quality development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), identifying agriculture technology, mines and minerals, industrial parks, offshore oil and gas exploration, environment protection and connectivity as priority areas for win-win cooperation. Both sides committed to fast-tracking implementation of projects in these sectors to foster socioeconomic development and shared prosperity, including through third-party participation in CPEC projects. The affirmation comes after Ambassador Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, Additional Secretary (Asia-Pacific) met with Sun Weidong, Vice Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, in Kunming on the margins of the 6th China-South Asia Cooperation Forum (CSACF). The additional secretary and vice foreign minister undertook in-depth exchange of views on the fast-evolving regional and global landscape while reaffirming the enduring strength of the Pakistan-China All-Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership. They agreed on the importance of maintaining strategic communication and coordination in navigating emerging challenges and harnessing shared opportunities for regional stability and prosperity. The two sides also emphasised the imperative of maintaining the momentum of high-level exchanges, including the upcoming 6th Round of Pakistan-China Strategic Dialogue at the Foreign Ministers' level to even further deepen the mutual trust and cooperation. Underscoring their shared commitment to multilateralism, both sides reaffirmed their resolve to coordinate policies at international fora, particularly at the United Nations, to uphold the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and promote an open, inclusive and rules-based international order. Meanwhile, Pakistan participates in the 6th CSACF in Kunming. Ambassador Imran Ahmed Siddiqui, Additional Secretary (Asia-Pacific) addressed the 6th CSACF in Kunming Friday. Speaking at the Forum under the theme, "Join Hands for Open and Inclusive Development," the additional secretary underscored Pakistan's unwavering commitment to multilateralism guided by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and reaffirmed that peace and development are mutually reinforcing pillars for building a stable and prosperous region. Lauding China's leadership in hosting the Forum, Ambassador Siddiqui noted that high-quality development under Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), exemplified by its flagship project of CPEC, has transformed the socio-economic landscape of the region. The additional secretary emphasised that lasting regional peace in the region cannot be achieved without addressing and resolving long-standing disputes, particularly in territories under foreign occupation. He called for adherence to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence centred on respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-aggression, non-interference, equality and peaceful resolution of disputes, as the cornerstone for regional cooperation. The additional secretary also proposed the establishment of China-South Asia Development Forum (CSADF) which can serve as a highlevel mechanism to advance practical cooperation in priority areas driving shared prosperity and inclusive development in the region. https://www.brecorder.com/news/40368899/6thchina-s-asia-cooperation-forum-held-in-kunming-pakistan-china-reaffirm-commitment-tohigh-quality-development-of-cpec

#### June 22, 2025

#### **K2** Daily

بجرى خولى عدد على وكل جامعات كالجريء فا كدووست كي م كوتك يوطله ي وان للك جاسة كا اراده ريجة عقه وه اب ملك كي اللي جامعات ار اور والمسلم من المسلم المس ال تو پی می تها به این الاست القبار کر بھی صفون میں آیا ہے طور پر اجروی ہے، یو ہے جو گوری تھروک 71 لید ہے۔ ب کا آرکن کا جم کے ساتھ رائن او جھی گئی ہے کہ بین دام ہے کہ بین دام کو میں میں ایا ہے گار فردا اس سے تعلق الموری ہے ہوں کی ہا ہے جو بین کی ہا ہے کہ بین الاست کے بین الاست کو بین الدی ہو تعلق میں میں الدی ہو تعلق کو بین الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کی در بر کا محمل کر دی گئی ہو جو بر کا محمل کر تھی گئی ہو تھی ہو ہو گئی کہ جو بر بر کا محمل میں بین کی الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کا الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کر ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کو بین کر ہو تعلق کو بین کو بین کر ہو تعلق کی الدی ہو تعلق کر ہو تھی کر ہو تو تعلق کر ہو تعلق کر ہو تھی کر گور کر ہو تھی کر ہو تھی کر گر ہو تھی

شاهافرازخان كاروبارى بال يداكروبا بسدال وقت يحن الواجات 5.8 وينين بالدب جرمال بر بريان قالى وكريكن في المهميار الديك التوراح يكن كالتعديد والمستمادة ولا كاسب بداد الحربات كالزائري بكا ميل 7.1 فيدكا صادر كاسب بين كرماك ولا كاسب بدائشي نظام قاتم كي الميلن بكان في موقد الما في موقد والتوثير وقد ب ب الدار الد ے بی اواق ای ساجل کا سب یا دار میں کے ایک ایس بر بارے ملک کی اعدوقی اور ہے۔ مل ایر کی 2895 کا میزاں میں اور کی اور میں اواق ای ساقروں کے لیے ایک ایم ہوری ہارے میں موری ہے۔ ترفیہ سال، تعلیم کو اور ای کا بی بادر قام موری ا

اب عي كونى ودواسة لين كرواليد يرسول على وأى ما يرسياهت كوموا في قرقى كراكيد الم الثارية كفور يرزق وي كاب اورقي تمالك كالوكل العمادي هيرسادت يرب الي

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Editorial&Date=2025-06-22

#### **June 23, 2025**

#### **K2** Daily

سطوا بوغورش، بیکنگ بوغورش، سیخی اداروں، اہم سرکاری تکلوں اور برے منعق شیموں کے دروازے کول دیاہے، جس سے ان کی زیمگ کی راہیں بدل جاتی ہیں۔ میگ



چین کے نظام تعلیم میں جوام کو جیشے سرکزی ایمیت دی گئی ہے اور اٹلی معیار کے نظیمی نظام کے حصول کے لئے جامع اصلاحات کو گہرا کرنے کا عمل سنقل طور پر جاری ہے۔ چینی الله المساورة المساو

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Editorial&Date=2025-06-23

https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2025-06-23

#### **Jang News**

#### مستقبل چین میں ہے" غیر ملکی سرمایہ کاروں کا اتفاق رائسر بن گیا ، چینی میڈ یا

بیجنگ (اے پی پی) ملٹی نیشنل کارپوریشنزکے رہنماؤں کی چھٹی چھنگ ڈاؤ سمٹ میں اٹلی کے ای این آئی گروپ کے چین میں چیئرمین جیووانی نے کہا ہے کہ چینی مارکیٹ نہ صرف مواقع سے بھری ہوئی ہے بلکہ قابل اعتماد اور غیر متزلزل بھی ہے، میرے خیال میں مستقبل چین میں ہے۔چینی میڈیا کے مطابق حال ہی میں اختتام پذیر ہونے والے اجلاس میں بہت سے غیر ملکی کاروباری اداروں کے ایگزیکٹوز نے کہا کہ چینی مارکیٹ کے "بے مثال فائدے" ہیںملٹی نیشنل کمپنیوں کے لئے چین کے پہلے قومی سطح کے اقتصادی اور تجارتی ایونٹ کے طور پر سمٹ میں 465 ملٹی نیشنل کمپنیوں کے 570 مہمانوں نے شرکت کی جو ایک ریکارڈ ہے۔ سمٹ میں دستخط کیے گئے معاہدوں کی مجموعی رقم 5.93 بلین امریکی ڈالر تک پہنچ گئی۔ سمٹ میں شرکت کرنے والی غیر ملکی کمپنیوں کا خیال ہے کہ "چینی آر اینڈ ڈی" عالمی ترتیب میں ناگزیر در اینڈ ڈی" عالمی ترتیب میں ناگزیر در اینڈ ڈی" عالمی ترتیب میں ناگزیر ہے۔ یہاں مارکیٹ، ٹیلنٹ اور جدت طرازی کے وسائل کا بھرپور استعمال کرکے ہی اپنی عالمی مسابقتی صلاحیت کو مستحکم کیا جا سکتا ہے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/916372

#### June 24, 2025

#### **Business Recorder**

### Pakistan, China assess Iran–Israel conflict and reiterate CPEC commitment

Pakistan and China discussed on Tuesday the recent developments in the Iran-Israel conflict amid the US President Donald Trump's announcement of a ceasefire.

Jiang Zaidong, Ambassador of China, called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad today, said the Prime Minister's Office (PMO).

While discussing the Iran-Israel conflict, the ambassador lauded the proactive and positive role being played by Pakistan at every diplomatic forum, including at the UN Security Council, for a peaceful settlement of the crisis through dialogue and diplomacy.

Moreover, the PM said that Pakistan was fully committed to continue working closely with China for the successful implementation of ongoing CPEC projects.

The premier highlighted key projects including ML-I, realignment of KKH, operationalization of Gwadar Port, as well as cooperation in agriculture, industrial and IT sectors, said the PMO.

"The Prime Minister expressed Pakistan's deep appreciation for China's consistent financial and economic support that had helped to stabilize Pakistan's economy and resulted in the improvement of the macro-economic outlook of the country.

This, he added, was vital to the government's socio-economic development agenda.

https://www.brecorder.com/news/40369375/pakistan-china-discuss-iran-israel-conflict

#### **The Express Tribune**

#### China lauds Pakistan's diplomatic efforts amid Iran-Israel tensions

On Sunday, the UN Security Council held an emergency session, where China, Russia, and Pakistan jointly called for an immediate and unconditional ceasefire in the Middle East.

Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong called on Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif in Islamabad and the two leaders discussed the evolving regional security situation and matters of mutual interest.

During the meeting, the Chinese envoy praised Pakistan's consistent efforts at international forums for a peaceful resolution to regional challenges, emphasising the need for dialogue and diplomacy.

Earlier today, the premier also met separately with the ambassadors of Saudi Arabia and Qatar to discuss the rapidly deteriorating Middle East situation, particularly in the wake of Iran's missile strike on the United States' Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar.

The missile attack, carried out late Monday night, came amid Iran's vows to retaliate for recent US airstrikes on its nuclear facilities.

Shehbaz reaffirmed Pakistan's unwavering solidarity with the people of Saudi Arabia and Qatar and stressed that diplomacy remained the only path to lasting peace in the region.

Ambassador Jiang also briefed Shehbaz on various dimensions of Pakistan-China bilateral cooperation and informed him that preparations were already underway to ensure the success of Shehbaz's upcoming visit to China, scheduled for late August 2025.

PM Shehbaz extended his warm regards and good wishes to Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang.

He expressed his sincere best wishes for the successful holding of the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit and acknowledged the ongoing consultations between the two countries regarding his participation in the event.

Recalling the historic, deep-rooted, and iron-clad "All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership" between Pakistan and China, Shehbaz reaffirmed Islamabad's firm commitment to work closely with Beijing on the timely and effective implementation of key projects under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

He highlighted several priority initiatives, including the Main Line-1 (ML-I) railway upgrade, the realignment of the Karakoram Highway (KKH), the operationalisation of Gwadar Port, and extended cooperation in agriculture, industrial development, and the IT sector.

The prime minister expressed Pakistan's deep appreciation for China's long-standing financial and economic support, stating that Beijing's assistance had helped stabilise Pakistan's economy and contributed to the improvement of the country's macroeconomic outlook. This support, he noted, was vital for achieving the government's broader socioeconomic development agenda. In response, Ambassador Jiang reaffirmed China's commitment to its strategic partnership with Pakistan and reiterated Beijing's support for regional peace, stability, and deeper economic integration.

In a separate development, the Foreign Office on Tuesday released a statement expressing Pakistan's deep concern over the growing regional tensions.

It strongly condemned violations of the principle of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations and urged all sides to adhere to international law and exercise restraint.

The statement also reiterated Pakistan's consistent position that dialogue and diplomacy remain the only viable path to resolving conflicts, and called for immediate steps to deescalate tensions to avoid further destabilisation in the region.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2552446/china-lauds-pakistans-diplomatic-efforts-amid-iran-israel-tensions

#### The Nation

#### PM reaffirms commitment for successful implementation of CPEC projects

Prime Minister Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif has reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to continue working closely with China for successful implementation of ongoing CPEC projects.

He was talking to Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan, Jiang Zaidong, who called on him in Islamabad today (Tuesday).

The Prime Minister conveyed his warm regards and good wishes for President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang.

He also extended his sincere best wishes for the successful holding of the upcoming SCO Summit in China.

Recalling the deep-rooted and iron-clad All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership between Pakistan and China, the Prime Minister highlighted ML-I, realignment of Karakoram Highway, operationalization of Gwadar Port, and cooperation in agriculture, industrial and IT sectors as key projects.

The Prime Minister expressed Pakistan's deep appreciation for China's consistent financial and economic support that has helped stabilize Pakistan's economy and resulted in improvement of macro-economic outlook of the country.

Regional security situation, particularly developments in the Iran-Israel conflict, was also discussed during the meeting.

On the occasion, the Chinese Ambassador lauded the proactive and positive role played by Pakistan at every diplomatic forum, including the UN Security Council, for a peaceful settlement of the crisis through dialogue and diplomacy.

He briefed the Prime Minister on various aspects of Pak-China bilateral cooperation and said preparations have already begun to ensure the success of the Prime Minister's upcoming visit to China by the end of August this year.

https://www.nation.com.pk/24-Jun-2025/pm-reaffirms-commitment-for-succesful-implementation-of-cpec-projects

#### June 25, 2025

#### **Business Recorder**

#### Chinese envoy and PM discuss CPEC agenda & upcoming China visit

ISLAMABAD: Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday reiterated Pakistan's commitment to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), describing it as a flagship project of the longstanding strategic partnership between Islamabad and Beijing.

In a meeting with Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong, the prime minister reiterated support for the timely implementation of key infrastructure schemes, including the Main Line-1 (ML-1) railway upgrade, the Karakoram Highway expansion, and the development of Gwadar Port.

According to a statement from the Prime Minister's Office, talks also touched on broader cooperation in agriculture, industry, and information technology.

PM Sharif conveyed greetings to Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang, and expressed hopes for the successful convening of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit, which Pakistan is expected to attend later this year. Consultations are currently under way regarding the prime minister's planned visit to China, likely to take place in late August. The prime minister thanked Beijing for its continued financial and economic support, which he said had contributed significantly to stabilising Pakistan's economy and improving its macroeconomic indicators. Regional security was also discussed, particularly recent developments in the Iran-Israel conflict. Ambassador Jiang praised Pakistan's role in promoting dialogue and diplomacy in international forums, including the UN Security Council. Both sides agreed to maintain close coordination ahead of the SCO summit, reaffirming their shared commitment to peace, development and regional connectivity.

https://www.brecorder.com/news/40369509/pm-chinese-envoy-discuss-cpec-projects

#### Pakistan Observer

#### **Transformative force**

As the Belt and Road Initiative enters its second decade, financial technology has emerged as a transformative force capable of reshaping economic development, trade facilitation and financial inclusion across partner countries.

In earlier phases of the BRI, fintech contributed to five strategic pillars — policy coordination, infrastructure connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people bonds — through innovations such as blockchain-based trade finance, digital payments and cross-border digital lending. Nowhere is its potential more visible than in Southeast Asia, a region that has become a vital testbed for BRI-linked digital innovation. Yet, while fintech offers powerful tools for sustainable growth and regional integration, its implementation also reveals a series of critical challenges that must be strategically addressed.

The most immediate challenge Chinese fintech faces in Southeast Asia is regulatory fragmentation. While Singapore embraces open frameworks and innovation sandboxes, other countries such as Indonesia and Vietnam take a more protectionist approach, requiring joint ventures or local majority ownership. The result is a patchwork of conflicting standards, where companies must constantly recalibrate compliance strategies, draining both time and resources.

Rising concerns over data sovereignty have added a second layer of complexity. Countries such as Indonesia and Thailand now mandate strict domestic data storage requirements, forcing Chinese platforms to localize infrastructure and restructure backend systems. These rules, while rooted in legitimate privacy and national security concerns, are driving up operational costs and complicating cross-border interoperability.

#### image.png

Technological vulnerabilities also persist. Rural areas remain underserved by digital infrastructure, limiting the reach of mobile finance. Local fintech ecosystems — though vibrant — often lack the technical depth, cybersecurity safeguards and talent pipeline to scale independently. This asymmetry fuels dependency on foreign platforms and stifles organic innovation. For instance, in Myanmar and Laos, inconsistent mobile connectivity and low smartphone penetration continue to hamper the adoption of mobile wallets and digital banking services, restricting fintech's reach beyond urban centers.

Geopolitical frictions further complicate the outlook. Strategic tensions between global powers are increasingly spilling into the digital domain, with Chinese tech platforms facing increasing scrutiny. App bans, investigations into cross-border digital currency initiatives, and national security concerns have created an unpredictable regulatory climate. A prominent example is the growing competition between Chinese fintech companies and their US counterparts in Southeast Asia. While Alipay and WeChat Pay have made notable inroads, platforms such as PayPal and Stripe continue to expand aggressively, often benefiting from regulatory preferences aligned with Western institutions — particularly in markets such as the Philippines and Vietnam.

Market competition is also intensifying. Local fintech champions such as Grab Financial, GCash and Sea Group's Shopee-Pay have grown rapidly, offering user-centric, highly localized services. These platforms — often integrated with ride-hailing or e-commerce ecosystems — enjoy strong brand loyalty and vast user bases. Meanwhile, Indian, Middle Eastern and European neobanks are also vying for market share in this region, further

crowding the field. Chinese companies must not only localize swiftly but also differentiate themselves in an increasingly competitive and saturated digital finance landscape.

And finally, there is the human element: trust. Financial technology is not just about systems and software — it's ultimately about people. In markets where financial literacy is uneven and cultural norms vary widely, adoption depends on more than functionality. It requires credibility, cultural sensitivity and sustained engagement. For example, in Malaysia and Indonesia, Shariah-compliant financial models are essential for user trust. Chinese companies should proactively adapt their products to align with financial principles in Islamic countries to build credibility and foster long-term acceptance in these culturally sensitive markets.

To turn these challenges into catalysts for deeper cooperation, action is needed across three fronts: government diplomacy, enterprise localization and institutional innovation.

First, strengthening digital diplomacy. At the government level, China should take the lead in promoting a more coordinated and inclusive regional framework for fintech cooperation across the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. This could involve high-level policy dialogues and regulatory alignment focused on key areas such as e-KYC (electronic know your customer), cross-border data governance, digital payment interoperability and central bank digital currencies. Existing initiatives provide valuable momentum for aligning digital development priorities and fostering institutional trust. China can also expand its role in digital capacity-building across partner countries. Strategic investment in broadband connectivity, digital literacy programs and cloud infrastructure — especially through public-private partnerships — would lower entry barriers for digital service providers and strengthen trust in China as a long-term development partner.

Second, deepening local integration. Chinese fintech companies must prioritize radical localization — not only in user interface and languages, but also in ownership structures, compliance practices and financial models. In data-sensitive countries, this could mean embracing decentralized system architectures that empower users with greater control over their personal information. Rather than simply exporting platforms, leading companies such as Ant Group, Tencent and JD Technology should invest in local R&D centers and developer ecosystems. Talent transfer, startup incubation and co-branded innovation with domestic fintech players can reposition Chinese companies from outsiders to embedded contributors to national digital ecosystems.

Equally important is the commitment to corporate social responsibility. Initiatives such as "10×1000 Tech for Inclusion", launched by Ant Group in partnership with the International Finance Corporation, have shown how fintech can serve not only market goals but broader social and environmental objectives. These efforts are essential for establishing a meaningful, lasting presence.

Third, reimagining financial institutions. China's development finance institutions can act as anchors for a new era of inclusive digital investment. Blended finance models — combining concessional loans with digital infrastructure funding — can mitigate risk for governments and private sector investors alike. Institutions such as the Export-Import Bank of China and the China Development Bank should pilot "fintech zones" within flagship BRI infrastructure projects. By integrating digital payment systems, e-CNY settlement and blockchain-based supply chain finance into ports, logistics parks and industrial corridors, these initiatives can enhance transparency and resilience across the Belt and Road investments.

Fintech represents both an opportunity and a responsibility for the future of the Belt and Road cooperation. If deployed with care, cultural awareness and a focus on long-term inclusion, it

can democratize capital, close development gaps and lay the digital foundation for a more integrated global economy.

The next chapter of the BRI will not be written in asphalt and steel alone — it will be encoded in blockchain ledgers, secured by artificial intelligence algorithms, and shaped by digital partnerships that cross borders and bridge cultures. With strategic foresight and cooperation, the Digital Silk Road can evolve into a trusted model of inclusive, resilient and sustainable development — where innovation uplifts all and no region is left behind.

https://pakobserver.net/transformative-force/

#### **Jang News**

#### سی پیک سےپاکستان میں انفراسٹرکچر، شپنگ اور دیگر معاملات بہتر ہوئے،گوہر اعجاز

لاہور(اپنے نامہ نگار سے) سابق وفاقی وزیر اور آل پاکستان ٹیکسٹائل ملز ایسوسی ایشن (اپٹما) کے پیٹرن انچیف ڈاکٹر گوہر اعجاز اعجاز نے کہا ہے کہ سی پیک کے تحت پاکستان میں انفراسٹرکچر، شپنگ اور دیگر معاملات بہتر ہوئے ڈاکٹر گوہر اعجاز نے ایک تقریب سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے کہا کہ پاکستان میں انرجی کی لاگت جو پہلے 16 سینٹ فی یونٹ تھی، اب کم ہو کر 9 سینٹ تک آگئی ہے، جو صنعتوں کیلئے ایک خوش آئند پیشرفت ہے، وقت کا تقاضا ہے کہ پاکستان چین کے ساتھ قریبی تعاون کو مزید فروغ دے۔

https://e.jang.com.pk/detail/917131

#### **K2 Daily**



https://epaper.dailyk2.com/Home?Issue=NP\_ICT&Page=Classified&Date=2025-06-25

#### **June 26, 2025**

#### **Daily Times**

### China praises Pakistan's role in promoting peaceful regional solutions through diplomacy

ISLAMABAD – China has appreciated Pakistan's active and constructive role in supporting peaceful solutions to regional security challenges, particularly through diplomatic efforts at global forums like the United Nations Security Council.

Chinese Ambassador Jiang Zaidong conveyed this praise during a meeting with Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Tuesday. Their discussion focused on the regional security situation, including recent tensions between Iran and Israel, as well as key bilateral matters between Pakistan and China.

Prime Minister Shehbaz extended warm wishes to Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Qiang and expressed his best hopes for the success of the upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Summit. He also acknowledged the ongoing talks regarding his scheduled visit to China in late August 2025.

Highlighting the enduring Pakistan-China "All Weather Strategic Cooperative Partnership," the Prime Minister reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to advancing the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). He stressed the importance of major projects such as ML-I, the realignment of the Karakoram Highway, the operationalization of Gwadar Port, and expanding cooperation in agriculture, industry, and IT.

Furthermore, Prime Minister Shehbaz thanked China for its continuous financial and economic support, which has played a key role in stabilizing Pakistan's economy. He noted that this backing was crucial in improving the country's macroeconomic outlook and supporting the government's broader development goals.

Ambassador Jiang also shared updates on various aspects of the two countries' cooperation and confirmed that preparations were already underway to ensure the success of the Prime Minister's upcoming China visit.

https://dailytimes.com.pk/1321979/china-praises-pakistans-role-in-promoting-peaceful-regional-solutions-through-diplomacy/

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### Civilizational dialogue: Insights from Dunhuang

Najeeba Arif

DUNHUANG—an ancient city in the north-western Chinese province of Gansu, the meeting point of at least four distinct civilizations, and a gateway to China.

It is a region distinguished by the singing sands of the Gobi Desert, crescent-shaped oases, and an aura of antiquity and timelessness that radiates a sense of grandeur. It is here that the China Association for International Understanding, in collaboration with several other institutions, organized an international conference titled "4th Dialogue on Exchanges and Mutual Learning among Civilizations" on May 29–31, 2025.

Over 400 delegates from around the world were invited to participate in this conference, representing 60 countries across six continents. The participants from diverse backgrounds and professions included former presidents and ministers, current senators, speakers and members of parliament, journalists, renowned figures from literature and the arts, heads of literary and academic institutions, poets, novelists, researchers, and university professors, all representing various regions including the United States, Australia, Europe, Africa, Latin America, and Asia. As a writer and Chairperson of the Pakistan Academy of letters, it was my privilege to represent Pakistan on this grand forum. Prior to the conference, as a group leader, I was asked by the organizers to participate in an interview with reporters from leading Chinese newspapers and television channels.

The Dunhuang International Hotel served as the seat of the conference and electric vehicles were readily available to transport guests between the different halls. The hotel was equipped with state-of-the-art facilities, and the windows of the rooms opened up to views of the vast expanse of the Gobi Desert's soft white singing sand. Behind the hotel, the rippling dunes created a picturesque landscape.

The conference commenced with a grand banquet hosted by the Governor of Gansu Province. An amazing cultural show skilfully blended modern technology with traditional attire. The formal opening ceremony took place the next day, presided over by China's Vice President, His Excellency Han Zheng. A select group of delegates, including myself, had the privilege of meeting with the Vice President beforehand. He reaffirmed China's commitment to respecting cultural diversity and collaborating with nations worldwide to promote humanity's collective well-being. I expressed gratitude for China's support of Pakistan, which the Vice President acknowledged with a warm smile. The ceremony concluded with a traditional Chinese dance performance.

The conference featured eight parallel sessions, each comprising 10 to 15 speakers, including renowned scholars, poets, and writers from China and abroad. My session, "Equality, Inclusiveness, and Harmonious Coexistence: Multidimensional Narratives of Civilizations from Writers' Perspective," brought together an impressive array of speakers, including: Professor and an award-winning poet Christopher Merrill from the University of Iowa, USA; Karen Christensen, CEO of the Berkshire Publishing Group; Melissa Lucashenko, an award-winning fiction writer from Australia; Mahem Uzair, Head of Marketing and Communication, Emirates Literature Foundation; and Ahmed Qarni Mohamed from Egypt, who couldn't attend but submitted his paper. We were also joined by six esteemed Chinese novelists and critics, many of whom were award-winning authors, who shared their insights and research. The session was moderated by literary critic Zhang Li, Deputy Dean of the School of Chinese Language and Literature at Beijing Normal University. The session was organized by the China Writers Association and co-organized by the China National Publications Import and Export Group.

As part of the cultural exchange, the hosts arranged for the participants to visit the historical and cultural sites in Dunhuang. What personally stood out to me were the ancient Buddhist Mogao Caves, where murals and sculptures of Buddhist history, dating back thousands of years, had been fully preserved. The traces of the ancient Silk Road, which had facilitated cultural exchange between China and the world for centuries, reinforced China's determination to continue collaboration and exchange.

What most participants took away from this academic, cultural, and intellectual exchange was that China is not a new or emerging civilization, but rather one with a unique culture and history that had always been engaging with other civilizations. While China values its traditions, it is also at the forefront of modern technology, using it to reinforce its cultural heritage while forging new paths for the future. Most importantly, China, at the intersection of the ancient and the modern, is ready to play its role in shaping the 21st century. China's policy is built on cooperation and mutual learning, embracing diversity rather than seeking to impose uniformity.

During my stay at Dunhuang, I was delighted to meet Mr. Shi Kequian, the Vice President of Lanzhou Resources and Environment Vocational and Technical University, who expressed his institution's eagerness to collaborate with Pakistani universities. I assured him that I would facilitate communication between his university and Pakistani institutions. I am sure that Pakistani students would greatly benefit from exploring the numerous opportunities available in Chinese universities, where mastering the Chinese language would unlock access to top-notch education and generous scholarships. These universities offer a well-rounded education—and their modern infrastructure, cutting-edge laboratories, and innovative facilities make them an attractive option for students seeking higher education abroad. Besides, a strong focus on discipline and character development adds to the impact of the education imparted in these institutions, a successful continuation of Confucian ethics and educational imperatives. <a href="https://pakobserver.net/civilizational-dialogue-insights-from-dunhuang/">https://pakobserver.net/civilizational-dialogue-insights-from-dunhuang/</a>

#### June 27, 2025

#### **The Express Tribune**

#### China is a friend, brother, says Asif

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) can help promote peace and serve as an important tool for safeguarding the development of countries in the region, said Defense Minister Khawaja Asif when attending the SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province. Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun met with Asif on the same day. Asif praised China's efforts in preventing the escalation of regional tensions, noting that recent months have seen rising instability and conflict across the region. He said Pakistan highly values its ironclad friendship with China and is willing to work closely with Beijing to implement three major global initiatives.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2552880/china-is-a-friend-brother-says-asif

#### June 28, 2025

#### **Pakistan Observer**

#### **SCO Defence Ministers' meeting 2025**

Dr Mehmood Ul Hassan Khan

THE world today remains deeply unsettled by the West's frequent military misadventures, ongoing hegemonic pursuits, and its enduring Cold War mindset—factors that continue to fuel global divisions, destruction and disorder.

In contrast, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) champions mutual respect, trust, collective security, socio-economic progress, regional connectivity and, above all, the advancement of the "Shanghai Spirit."

The most recently held meeting of the SCO Defence Minister held in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province has once again highlighted the strategic importance of regional peace, stability and security reiterating on a joint mechanism against terrorism. Coincidentally, the Israel-Iran war, the US bombing on Iran nuclear sites, Russia-Ukraine conflict, military build-up in Asia Pacific (South Sea China), re-activation of QUAD and AUKUS and last but not least, constant arms supplies to Taiwan all catalyst to SCO Defence Ministers meeting. Thus rigorous participation of all 10 member states making the event a comprehensive one, highlighting the SCO's significance.

The Defence Ministers' Meeting of SCO was chaired and addressed by Chinese Defence Minister Dong. Leaders from the Defence Departments of the SCO member states, as well as senior officials of the SCO Secretariat and Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure attended and chalked out a holistic and comprehensive policy against all regional security irritants. According to the Chinese Defence Ministry Dong rightly labelled unilateralism and protectionism and acts of hegemony, overbearing and bullying as anti-global governance severely undermining international order, becoming the primary source of instability and chaos.

His suggestions to work jointly will further strengthen coordination and cooperation within multilateral frameworks such as the UN and the SCO will definitely unite more progressive forces with shared ideals, uphold international fairness and justice and safeguard global strategic stability. Thus promoting the "Shanghai Spirit," will further strengthen the SCO,

deepening practical cooperation, and taking more vigorous actions to jointly preserve the environment for peaceful development.

It is a good omen that during the meeting, all parties spoke highly of China's active efforts and significant contributions as the rotating president to advance improvements to the SCO's operational mechanisms and deepening cooperation across various fields. Hence consolidation and developing of military collaboration in the SCO has become a new normal mitigating all security threats. Obviously, it is the largest SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting since Belarus joined the organization in 2024 highlighting the SCO's commitment to fostering consensus, narrowing differences and promoting unity.

It bodes well that since its inception, the SCO has constantly upheld the "Shanghai Spirit," supported bilateral and multilateral cooperation, and safeguarded international and regional peace and stability. There are drastic differences in the SCO scope, utility, composition and last but not least importance because it always features partnership rather than alliance. Unlike military alliances formed to target enemies, the SCO is not directed against any third party. Therefore, it's peace-loving entity and regional stabilizer. Evidently, the SCO is open, inclusive and transparent unlike the exclusive and confrontational military alliances and multilateral mechanisms established by the US and Western forces/countries. Contrary to this the SCO focuses on non-traditional security cooperation, especially in the field of counterterrorism, such as the "Peace Mission" joint military exercises series.

The writer is of the opinion that the meeting is expected to vigorously promote the "Shanghai Spirit," which emphasizes mutual trust, mutual benefit, equal consultation, respect for diverse civilizations and pursuit of common development. Xi's global shared prosperity will further promote solidarity and mutual trust, peace and tranquillity, prosperity and development, good-neighbourliness and friendship, as well as fairness and justice. Hopefully, the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting will firmly defend fairness and justice, collectively address security challenges, and advance defence and security cooperation through concrete plans and tangible actions, injecting stability into a world marked by turbulence and change. Critical analysis reveals that since its establishment, the SCO has reached an important consensus and promoted major cooperation in the field of defence and security, setting an example for regional and international collaboration.

Additionally, China's rotating presidency has significantly improved its defence and security sector by organizing official meetings at various levels, such as the Defence Ministers' Meeting, the International Military Cooperation Organs Meeting, and the Expert Working Group Meeting. Additionally, China has initiated innovative activities, including the SCO young and middle-aged officers' exchange in 2024, and the "SCO+" Young Scholars' Salon in conjunction with the Beijing Xiangshan Forum. In May of this year, China also hosted the SCO Military Medicine Seminar.

In summary, SCO Defence Ministers meeting 2025 is timely, holistic, comprehensive, productive and participatory although Indian unfriendly attitude of not signing its joint declaration has miserably failed showing another strategic defeat on the diplomatic front. This meeting has clearly demonstrated China's unwavering resolve to work with the Defence Departments and Armed Forces of SCO member states to vigorously promote the Shanghai Spirit and actively contribute to building a closer SCO community with a shared future.

The SCO Defence Ministers meeting has once again emphasized on the strategic importance of strong "defence", "deterrence" and secret agencies against all external aggressions. Role of deep state is a global phenomenon starting from Chanakya Kautilya's "Arthashastra" to Roman Empire's "Hidden network" to ancient Turkiye "Derin devlet" and last not least

modern era "Hybrid intelligence system" and close liaison of their secret agencies always play a decisive role. Thus liberals' mere fantasies of civil liberties have become irrelevant in the game of survival. The writer suggests that the role, scope and utility of the SCO joint military cooperation and production should be further discussed and developed. The joint SCO-RATS should be further elaborated and implemented. The forming of a joint intelligence sharing network is necessary for eradicating human & drugs trafficking, terrorism, fanaticism and radicalism among the SCO member countries.

https://pakobserver.net/sco-defence-ministers-meeting-2025/

#### June 29, 2025

#### **Business Recorder**

#### Pakistani engineers gain recognition in China under landmark pact

ISLAMABAD: Engineers are widely regarded as the backbone of any nation's development by designing the infrastructure, technology, and systems that power modern life.

Yet in developing countries like Pakistan, despite their qualifications, skills and tireless contributions, engineers have long struggled to attain the recognition, status, and opportunities they deserve both at home and abroad.

In this context, the landmark Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) signed between the Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) and the Chinese Society of Engineers (CSE-CAST) is nothing short of a breath of fresh air and for many in Pakistan's engineering community, a long-awaited breakthrough.

The agreement formally grants PEC-registered engineers the right to work in China without undergoing additional assessments or licensing exams, offering not just jobs but validation, dignity, and a gateway to global practice.

It's a game-changer—one that lifts the weight of years of structural limitations and unlocks doors to some of the world's most advanced and demanding engineering sectors.

With just a PEC registration in hand, Pakistani engineers can now contribute to mega-projects across energy, smart infrastructure, ICT, and research in China, and by extension, across many Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) member countries-without navigating complex administrative processes or licensing obstacles.

The agreement, signed recently in Chengdu, is not just a bilateral formality-it is a powerful endorsement of the technical caliber of Pakistan's engineering community.

It places Pakistani engineers on equal footing with their Chinese counterparts and sends a strong message of trust, mutual respect, and professional parity.

This breakthrough is largely attributed to the proactive vision and diplomatic engagement of the PEC Governing Body (2024–2027), which has made global recognition a cornerstone of its reform agenda.

The leadership's strategic foresight has translated into a rare moment of international validation for Pakistan's engineering standards.

"This agreement is a clear vote of confidence in Pakistan's engineers," said Engr. Waseem Nazir, Chairman of PEC. "It reinforces our mission to raise the standing of Pakistan's engineering profession on the global stage. It will not only help our youth access better opportunities abroad but will also promote Pakistan as a hub of reliable technical expertise."

Beyond symbolic recognition, the agreement has practical and far-reaching implications.

Degrees from PEC and CEEAA-accredited institutions will now be accepted in both countries without revalidation. The scope of practice is wide-allowing licensed engineers to participate in a range of infrastructure and innovation sectors, provided they comply with local regulations and codes of ethics.

A joint PEC–CSE working group will handle professional oversight, continuous professional development (CPD) programs, and credential verification.

This is a historic opening for Pakistani engineers among many of whom have the talent and ambition but lacked the international channels to fully utilize their skills. As engineers cross into Chinese markets, their presence will not only boost Pakistan's service exports and remittance inflows but also elevate the country's image as a source of world-class human capital.

The timing of this breakthrough is deeply aligned with the broader institutional reforms PEC has been pursuing under Engr. Waseem Nazir's leadership.

https://www.brecorder.com/news/40370221/pakistans-engineers-get-recognition-in-china-under-landmark-pact

#### **The Express Tribune**

#### Pak beat Chinese Taipei in Asian Netball

Leya Raza Shah, Alisha Naveed, Summayya Safdar, Haleema, Sarina Hussain, Jasmine Farooq, Farah Rasheed, Amani, Parisa put up outstanding show for Pakistan to hich the Chnese Taipei team had no answer.

Chairman, Pakistan Netball Federation, Mudassar Arian, President, Sameen Malik, Secretary General, Muhammad Riaz congratulated Pakistan team for their back to back wins against Saudi Arabia ad Chinese Taipei in the ega event.

Pakistan is placed in Pool- B of the event and will play its next match against Korea on Sunday (tomorrow).

Later, Pakistan will play its 4th and 5th matches in its group against Japan and Maldives on June 30 and July 1, respectively. Now, Pakistan is at the top of Pool-B.

Eleven teams are participating in the championship and divided into two groups;

It must be mentioned here that the Pakistan Sports Board (PSB), in a step-motherly treatment towards the sport of netball, has completely ignored the PNF while distributing funds to 22 other sports federations this week.

The PNF has neither received an annual nor a special grant this year from the PSB.

Pakistan netball teams have been bringing laurels to the country for decades now and have always kept the country's flag high in international events.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2553180/pak-beat-chinese-taipei-in-asian-netball

#### \$3.7 billion loan deals finalised with China

Shahbaz Rana

The deals would also help meet a commitment with the International Monetary Fund to close the fiscal year 2024-25 with \$14 billion gross foreign exchange reserves.

Official sources told The Express Tribune that the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) and the Bank of China have signed a total \$1.6 billion deals on Friday. The money will be disbursed by Monday, which is the last day of the current fiscal year.

At one stage it appeared that China may not sign the \$1.6 billion deals this week, which resulted in hectic backdoor economic diplomacy. The sources said that Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar played a critical role in finalising the deals after he was approached by the finance ministry.

Dar first started pursuing the Chinese authorities on May 19 that eventually led to the signing and disbursement of \$2.1 billion commercial loan by a syndicate of three Chinese commercial banks this week.

A \$2.1 billion or 15 billion RMB syndicate financing loan by three Chinese commercial banks matured a few days ago, which pulled the reserves down to \$8.9 billion, said the sources. Unlike rollovers of Chinese cash deposits of \$4 billion, the Chinese commercial loans have to be first repaid before these are refinanced on new terms and conditions.

China has given this \$2.1 billion money in RMB currency, which is also reflected in the foreign exchange reserves of the central bank. As a result, the foreign exchange reserves jumped to \$12.4 billion on Friday, said the sources.

The China Development Bank has given 9 billion RMB, Bank of China 3 billion RMB and ICBC 3 billion RMB. The loan is being extended for a period of three years, said the government sources.

There were still \$1.6 billion pending amounts, which were slipping to next fiscal year. Ishaq Dar on Friday received confirmation from the Chinese authorities that the remaining two commercial loans have also been finalized and the money will be disbursed very soon, the sources added.

In total, Pakistan and China have finalized \$3.7 billion worth of commercial loans deals in the past few days. The Friday deal included a \$1.3 billion loan of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC). The ICBC had given the loan two years ago at floating interest rates, which translated to around 7.5%.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2553225/37-billion-loan-deals-finalised-with-china

#### The NEWS

#### Pakistan 'secures' \$3.4bn debt rollover from China

China has rolled over \$3.4 billion in loans to Pakistan, which together with other recent commercial and multilateral lending will boost Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves to \$14 billion, a finance ministry source said on Sunday.

Beijing rolled over \$2.1 billion, which has been in Pakistan's central bank's reserves for the last three years, and refinanced another \$1.3 billion commercial loan, which Islamabad had paid back two months ago, the source said.

Another \$1 billion from Middle Eastern commercial banks and \$500 million from multilateral financing have also been received, he said.

"This brings our reserves in line with the IMF target," he said.

The loans, especially the Chinese ones, are critical to shoring up Pakistan's low foreign reserves, which the IMF required to be over \$14 billion at the end of the current fiscal year on June 30.

Pakistani authorities say that the country's economy has stabilised through ongoing reforms under a \$7 billion IMF bailout.

Earlier, on March 9, 2025, China extended the repayment period of a \$2 billion loan to Pakistan by one year, the finance ministry had confirmed.

Around 92% of Pakistan's external debt is owed to three major sources including multilateral and bilateral creditors as well as international bonds, according to The News.

Among the bilateral creditors, China is on the top keeping in view the total external debt and liabilities.

Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves held by the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) declined by \$2.66 billion during the week ending June 20, 2025, bringing the central bank's reserves down to \$9.06 billion, according to data released by the SBP.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/1325452-pakistan-secures-34bn-debt-rollover-from-china

#### **June 30, 2025**

#### **Express Tribune**

#### The hidden cost of hefty borrowing

Asad Hayat

In June 2025, following the disbursement of these funds, the reserves rose to nearly \$15 billion, offering a temporary cushion equivalent to about two months' worth of imports. However, beneath the surface of this fiscal reprieve lies a complex web of financial vulnerabilities and strategic risks that could undermine Pakistan's long-term economic sovereignty.

China has emerged as Pakistan's largest bilateral lender, with outstanding loans exceeding \$29 billion. Much of this lending is linked to infrastructure development under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), a central component of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

While CPEC projects have brought critical improvements in energy generation, transport connectivity, and logistics, they have also saddled Pakistan with an increasing debt burden. Many of these loans are non-concessional, meaning they carry higher interest rates. Additionally, several Chinese-backed energy projects include capacity payment clauses that obligate Pakistan to make fixed payments regardless of power consumption, leading to billions in annual outflows. This contractual structure places sustained pressure on Pakistan's already overextended public finances.

The current loan deal underscores a pattern that has developed in recent years: instead of retiring its obligations, Pakistan has increasingly relied on refinancing maturing Chinese debt. While this approach alleviates immediate liquidity crises, it does little to improve long-term sustainability.

Refinancing delays the inevitable, creating a revolving door of repayments that expands the debt stock without addressing underlying structural weaknesses.

As Pakistan's access to Western credit diminishes due to poor reform implementation and global risk perceptions, Chinese loans appear increasingly attractive because they are disbursed quickly and without stringent conditions. However, this convenience increases China's leverage over Pakistan – not only economically but diplomatically.

The growing financial relationship shapes Pakistan's foreign policy calculus, particularly in matters related to India, the United States, and broader regional alignments.

Efforts to diversify external financing have yielded some support. The World Bank recently approved a ten-year, \$20 billion support package aimed at structural reform and development financing. Additionally, Pakistan remains under the IMF's Extended Fund Facility, which offers periodic tranches of funding subject to conditions such as tax reform, energy subsidy cuts, and improved fiscal management. Yet successive governments have struggled to meet these reform benchmarks, weakening credibility and leading to repeated interruptions in disbursement. In contrast, Chinese funding is politically less sensitive, often directed at visible infrastructure projects and devoid of institutional scrutiny, which makes it more attractive to policymakers under short-term political pressure.

Without internal reforms, external financing — no matter how generous or immediate — cannot create sustainable stability. The challenge is not merely about securing foreign funds but about using those funds to build institutional capacity, diversify the economy, and reduce dependency. Continued borrowing without a parallel commitment to reform merely postpones the crisis and locks Pakistan into a cycle of debt and vulnerability.

Moreover, the bilateral nature of Chinese lending can undermine Pakistan's position in global credit markets. Multilateral lenders and private investors closely monitor sovereign debt profiles, and overreliance on one creditor can affect Pakistan's risk rating, borrowing costs, and diplomatic flexibility. Questions around repayment capacity, especially in light of high annual debt servicing requirements, may erode investor confidence and reduce future funding opportunities.

The latest \$3.3 billion package offers short-term relief but does little to change the fundamentals. It is, in essence, a temporary fix that masks a growing problem. Every loan signed without reform commitments increases Pakistan's exposure to future crises.

To move beyond this precarious cycle, Pakistan must take control of its economic trajectory. That means implementing broad-based reforms to expand the tax base, restructure public enterprises, improve energy sector efficiency, and enhance transparency in debt contracting. Only then can external financing serve as a tool for growth rather than a source of dependency.

Multilateral lenders may impose tough conditions, but their long-term orientation and oversight mechanisms offer a pathway to resilience that bilateral loans alone cannot provide.

In the short run, the Chinese loan provides breathing space and may help avoid immediate balance-of-payments crises. But in the long run, the real question is whether this dependence on a single creditor compromises Pakistan's ability to make independent economic choices.

For Pakistan to secure a sustainable future, it must shift from firefighting to reform, from short-term relief to long-term resilience. The time to act is now.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2553354/the-hidden-cost-of-hefty-borrowing

#### Pak, China eye new bloc replacing SAARC

Kamran Yousaf

Discussions between Islamabad and Beijing are now at an advanced stage as both sides are convinced that a new organisation is need of the hour for regional integration and connectivity, according to diplomatic sources familiar with the development.

The recent trilateral meeting of Pakistan, China and Bangladesh held in Kunming, China, was part of those diplomatic maneuvers.

The meeting attended by senior diplomats from three countries was first of its kind that raised eyebrows in India.

The ultimate goal of the meeting in Kunming on June 19 was to invite other South Asian countries, which were part of SAARC, to join the new grouping.

India, according to sources, would be invited to the new proposed forum but given its divergent interests, it is unlikely to respond positively.

Nevertheless, other countries including Sri Lanka, Maldives, Afghanistan to name a few are expected to be part of the grouping.

The main purpose of the new organisation is to seek greater regional engagement through enhanced trade and connectivity. If the proposal is materialised, SAARC, which was once dubbed European Union (EU) of South Asia, would be dead as ever.

SAARC could not achieve its stated objectives as it remained hostage to adversarial ties between Pakistan and India.

The regional grouping last held its summit a decade ago. Pakistan was to host the summit in 2016 but India boycotted the meeting in Islamabad. Bangladesh, which was at the time ruled by pro-India Sheikh Hasina Wajid, also joined New Delhi in staying away from the summit.

Since then no serious efforts were made to revive the organisation, though Pakistan was keen to host the summit.

Recently, SAARC was dealt with another fatal blow when India withdrew from offering special visas under the organization to Pakistani businessmen following the Pahalgam attack.

Pakistan and China were discussing the proposal of new organization for months and came to the conclusion that like-minded countries should join hands for better future.

India, observers believe, because of its divergent interests finds itself misfit in other regional groupings such as Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Prime Minister Narendra Modi skipped the last two SCO summits. The 10-member security alliance comprises China, Russia, Iran, Pakistan and some central Asian States.

https://tribune.com.pk/story/2553356/pak-china-eye-new-bloc-replacing-saarc

#### The NEWS

#### China okays rollover, refinancing of \$3.4bn loans

ISLAMABAD: In a timely supportive move, China has extended rollover and refinancing of its \$3.4 billion commercial loans, facilitating Islamabad to meet the IMF condition of keeping the foreign reserves at over \$14 billion at the end of the current fiscal year on June 30.

China has rolled over \$2.1 billion, which has been lying in the State Bank of Pakistan (SBP) for the last three years, and also refinanced another \$1.3 billion commercial loan, which Islamabad had paid back two months ago.

Another \$1 billion from Middle Eastern commercial banks and \$500 million from multilateral financing has also been received, an official confided to The News. "This brings our reserves in line with the IMF target," said the official.

The loans, especially those from China, are critical to shoring up Pakistan's low foreign reserves, which the IMF required to be over \$14 billion at the end of the current fiscal year on June 30.

Geo adds: Pakistani authorities say the economy has stabilised through ongoing reforms under a \$7 billion IMF bailout.

Earlier, on March 9, 2025, China extended the repayment period of a \$2 billion loan by one year, confirmed the finance ministry. Around 92% of Pakistan's external debt is owed to three major sources, including multilateral and bilateral creditors as well as international bonds.

Among the bilateral creditors, China is on the top keeping in view the total external debt and liabilities.

https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/1325560-china-rolls-over-3-4bn-commercial-loans

#### Chinese Newspapers

#### June 16, 2025

#### **People's Daily**

### China's market, openness offer vital growth opportunities for South Asia: Pakistani business leader

ISLAMABAD, June 14 (Xinhua) -- The upcoming China-South Asia Expo in Kunming, South China's Yunnan province, serves as a powerful catalyst for regional trade, investment, and technological collaboration, said a leading Pakistani business representative, emphasizing the importance of deepening China-South Asia cooperation amid global economic uncertainty.

In an interview with Xinhua, Syed Hasan Raza, CEO of Dairy Solution Pvt Ltd and executive member of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said the expo provides South Asian countries with unparalleled access to China's vast consumer market and supply chains.

"As one of the world's largest online retail and import markets, China offers tremendous opportunities for businesses in South Asia, especially in sectors like agriculture, dairy, and food processing," Raza said.

He praised China's consistent economic progress and high-level opening-up policies, calling them "a forward-looking approach that promotes peace, innovation, and sustainable development." He said Chinese initiatives to boost imports of high-quality goods are opening new avenues for emerging economies such as Pakistan to modernize and grow.

The 2025 China-South Asia Expo will be held in Kunming from June 19 to June 24. Raza said Pakistani businesses are keen to expand exports and forge long-term partnerships through the event.

Highlighting the complementary strengths of China and South Asian nations, Raza said regional cooperation in industrial and supply chains is vital.

"China's technology and logistics expertise, combined with South Asia's labor and resource base, can create more resilient and inclusive regional value chains," he noted.

He emphasized that technical collaboration with China in areas such as cold-chain logistics, feed technology, and processing can significantly upgrade Pakistan's agri-based industries.

Commenting on the role of China's Yunnan province, which is hosting the expo, Raza described it as an important hub linking South Asia and Southeast Asia.

"Yunnan's strong infrastructure, digital connectivity, and cross-border platforms are transforming it into a hub for trade, services, and innovation," he said.

He added that Yunnan's integration of healthcare, tourism, and green development makes it an attractive model for regional cooperation, particularly in digital trade and sustainable supply chain development.

As trade protectionism rises globally, Raza lauded China's steadfast efforts to keep global trade open.

"China's commitment to free trade and stable supply chains is reassuring. It offers developing economies like Pakistan the tools to remain competitive, connected, and future-ready," he said

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0616/c90000-20328122.html

#### June 19, 2025

#### Xinhua News

### China's GDI promotes people-centric development, connectivity, regional integration: Pakistani officials

ISLAMABAD, June 19 (Xinhua) -- Pakistani officials and experts are of the belief that the Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by China is aligned with Pakistan's vision of achieving sustainable development goals by promoting people-centric development, connectivity and regional integration.

With deep strategic ties between Pakistan and China, including cooperation under the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), Pakistan is well-positioned to integrate GDI into its development framework, said the officials during a ceremony here on Wednesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Romina Khurshid Alam, convener of the Pakistan-China parliamentary friendship group and coordinator to the prime minister on climate change and environmental coordination, highlighted the role of GDI in advancing inclusive growth, climate resilience, and South-South cooperation.

"Pakistan sees the GDI not merely as a global framework but as an intrinsic element of its national development strategy -- one that emphasizes public accountability, equity, and ownership by the people through their elected representatives," she said.

Alam said that a national program is being launched to embed the GDI across Pakistan's legislative, academic, and civic sectors, adding that with multi-party consensus, the program is aimed to mainstream GDI through policy dialogues, public outreach, youth and academic engagement, human security frameworks, and strengthened parliamentary cooperation with China.

Talking about the Pakistan-China time-tested friendship, the official underlined that the relationship between the two countries has matured into a comprehensive partnership, which not only strengthened bilateral ties, but also served as a beacon of solidarity in the Global South.

The GDI complements Pakistan's national goals of infrastructure modernization, environmental resilience, and equitable development, Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Muhammad Junaid Anwar Chaudhry said.

"As the global community searches for models that promote equitable and sustainable growth, GDI offers a timely and people-centric solution. It is a symbol of connectivity, coastal development, and regional integration," the minister said.

Emphasizing Pakistan's maritime ambitions under the GDI framework, Chaudhry said that measures, including digitizing and greening port operations, developing sustainable ocean industries, and enhancing logistics connectivity from coast to hinterland, are being taken to develop the maritime sector.

In his address on the occasion, Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Jiang Zaidong said that the implementation of the GDI has opened a new chapter for China to deepen South-South cooperation and promote common development among all countries, including Pakistan.

The GDI has been integrated into the comprehensive cooperation between China and Pakistan, yielding fruitful outcomes, he said, adding that Pakistan and China would work together on GDI priority areas such as poverty alleviation, food security, pandemic response and vaccines, development financing, climate change and green development, industrialization, digital economy and connectivity.

https://english.news.cn/asiapacific/20250619/a0b9b3caef95492fbc4055e1a7664abc/c.html

#### June 20, 2025

#### **People's Daily**

### China's GDI promotes people-centric development, connectivity, regional integration: Pakistani officials

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https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0620/c90000-20330496.html

#### June 21, 2024

#### **China Daily**

### Forging heartfelt bond at China-South Asia Expo: Pakistani vendor's Qingdao connection

When a Pakistani vendor at the China-South Asia Expo declared, "I'm from Qingdao!" China Daily reporter Xia Ji spun around in disbelief. Through shared laughter and hometown stories, this unexpected encounter sparked a heartfelt connection between China and Pakistan.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202506/21/WS685658b6a310a04af22c7a3b.html

### Pakistan's envoy emphasizes role of food and culture in boosting bilateral ties

Pakistan's ambassador to China emphasized the role of food and cultural exchange in strengthening bilateral ties during the inauguration of a Pakistani restaurant in Haikou, Hainan province, on Friday, calling it a bridge to deepen people exchanges between the two nations.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Ambassador Khalil Hashmi noted the newly opened TATA restaurant's significance for Pakistani students in Hainan, offering them a taste of home while introducing Chinese friends to Pakistan's diverse cuisine - from spicy curries to sweet desserts.

The event also spotlighted broader economic collaboration chances. The ambassador highlighted Pakistan's growing healthcare sector, including its pharmaceutical industry and skilled medical workforce, as complementary to Hainan Free Trade Port's ambitions in medical tourism and remote healthcare.

"This is a win-win partnership," he said, pointing to opportunities for joint ventures in medicine, hospital management, and surgical equipment.

Hashmi praised Pakistani businesses' participation in the China International Consumer Products Expo held in Haikou and pledged to expand trade ties, particularly in marine economies, agriculture, and fisheries.

He cited potential stronger bonds between the port of Gwadar and Hainan to enhance maritime cooperation.

Tourism emerged as another key area, with the ambassador endorsing Hainan's tropical appeal and hospitality industry.

"Haikou is vibrant and welcoming, a must-visit, especially in winter," he said, encouraging more Pakistani visitors to explore the island province's cuisine and business opportunities.

On education, Hashmi has acknowledged the increasing number of students from Pakistan pursuing medical education in Hainan province, attributing their choice to the province's high-quality institutions and favorable tropical climate, though he noted that local food might be "less spicy" than Pakistani dishes.

Over 50 Pakistani students and professionals living in Hainan attended the restaurant's launch, an event underscoring deepening China-Pakistan cultural and economic ties, with Hashmi affirming commitments to harness "shared strengths" across sectors.

https://www.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202506/21/WS68566c59a310a04af22c7a4c.html

#### People's Daily

### China-South Asia Expo provides new opportunities to bolster trade and cooperation

KUNMING, June 20 (Xinhua) -- Senior officials from multiple countries attending the opening ceremony of the 9th China-South Asia Expo on Thursday highly praised the event for providing new opportunities to boost trade and regional cooperation.

The expo in the southwestern Chinese city of Kunming has drawn representatives from over 70 countries, regions and international organizations, as well as over 2,500 enterprises.

"The China-South Asia Expo is a great platform for strengthening exchanges and cooperation among China and South Asian countries ... The expo has, over the years, connected China with the South Asian countries much closer," said Wasantha Samarasinghe, Sri Lanka's minister of trade, commerce, food security and cooperative development.

As the theme country for this year's expo, Sri Lanka will take this valuable opportunity to leverage the full potential for trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchange opportunities in the lucrative Chinese market, the minister added.

Vietnamese Deputy Prime Minister Tran Hong Ha stated that the expo symbolizes shared opportunities among the economies of China, South Asia, and ASEAN, aiming for harmonious, sustainable, and inclusive common development.

Lao Deputy Prime Minister Kikeo Khaykhamphithoune said that the expo has created opportunities for enterprises and business people from various countries, including his own,

to engage in exchanges and cooperation on trade, investment, business operation and market connectivity.

He expressed confidence that the expo will foster friendly relations based on mutual understanding and trust among regional countries, enabling governments and private enterprises to collaborate for a bright and sustainable future.

"From the perspective of Myanmar's business community, the expo offers a unique opportunity to engage with regional products in a single venue, facilitate direct connections between Myanmar's products and Chinese consumers, and open doors for collaboration with South Asian and ASEAN countries," said Tin Aung San, Myanmar's deputy prime minister and union minister at the prime minister's office.

"I strongly believe that this expo will serve as an important platform to foster partnerships in trade and investment among China, Myanmar, South Asia, and Southeast Asia, ultimately benefiting the people of the nations," he added.

Mawlawi Abdul Salam Hanafi, an acting deputy prime minister of Afghanistan's interim government, described the expo as a key platform for trade exchange, investment promotion and economic dialogue in the region.

"It plays a vital role in developing regional partnerships and strengthening economic ties between South Asian countries," Hanafi said.

"Let's use this platform to spark new partnerships, share bold ideas, and build a region that's not just prosperous but a model of peace and cooperation for the world," said Ahmed Nazim, deputy speaker of the People's Majlis of the Maldives.

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#### **June 23, 2025**

#### **People's Daily**

#### Exploring cultural richness of 'pearl of Silk Road' Kashgar

Che Bin, Li Yanan

Located in the southwestern part of Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, Kashgar sits on a lush oasis nourished by the Yarkant River, which flows from the Karakoram Mountains. Since ancient times, traders and travelers crossing the Pamir Plateau have stopped here to rest, trade, and connect. This made Kashgar a key hub along the ancient Silk Road and one of Xinjiang's earliest international trading posts. Historical figures such as Zhang Qian, Xuanzang, Faxian, and Marco Polo all left their footprints in this storied land.

Today, Kashgar stands as China's gateway to the west, an international corridor leading to Central, West, and South Asia, and the starting point of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor. Departing from downtown Kashgar and heading south along the Karakoram Highway, known as the "China-Pakistan Friendship Road," one can reach Taxkorgan Tajik autonomous county after a 300-kilometer drive.

Just north of Taxkorgan lies the Ruins of Stone City, a site with more than 2,000 years of history. When Buddhist monk Xuanzang in Tang Dynasty (618-907) returned from his journey to India, he passed through the site and later described the ancient stronghold in his travelogue "The Great Tang Records on the Western Regions." Weathered by time, the ruins still stands with quiet grandeur.

In downtown Kashgar lies the ancient city of Kashgar, which dates back over 2,100 years. Known as a "living city of antiquity," it begins each day with a ceremonial opening: at sunrise, dancers emerge from its streets, greeting visitors with cheerful music and vibrant performances.

Wandering through the ancient city, one encounters 99 alleys that twist and turn, lined with earth-toned buildings decorated with flower pots, intricate wood carvings, colorful domes, and overhanging eaves. As families expand, new generations add floors to their homes, creating a unique and compact architectural landscape with hanging houses and enclosed passageways. Over time, more than 20,000 residences have formed a dense, labyrinthine urban layout - one of the largest inhabited clusters of earthen buildings in the world.

In the early Yuan Dynasty (1271-1368), Italian traveler Marco Polo described Kashgar in his travel notes as a city with beautiful gardens, orchards, vineyards, and merchants from every corner of the world.

In August last year, Italian hiking enthusiast Vienna Cammarota visited Kashgar. Before her trip to China, she had read about the city in The Travels of Marco Polo. Upon arrival, she was thrilled to discover that Kashgar was not only a vital hub on the ancient Silk Road but also a place brimming with vitality today.

"The streets are lively by day and poetic at night," she said. "There's a constant hum of voices and the air is filled with the aromas of spices, freshly baked bread, and sizzling barbecue."

In the ancient city of Kashgar, there is a cafe named Dili & Diya, run by a young local man, Dilxat Tursun, and his Tanzanian wife Hadiya.

Hadiya attributed her opportunity to live and study in China to the Belt and Road Initiative. She met Dilxat Tursun while both were students in Fuzhou, southeast China's Fujian province. In May 2020, the couple returned to Dilxat Tursun's hometown Kashgar.

"The moment I arrived in Kashgar, I fell in love with it," Hadiya said. "The city has a rich history, and the people are warm and hospitable. In my hometown of Zanzibar, there's also a Stone City, which feels quite similar to Kashgar. That connection made me feel even closer to this place."

Their cafe features hand-crafted pottery cups from Kashgar and wall decorations from Africa. "Tanzanian coffee beans are well-known in the Chinese market," said Dilxat Tursun. "So in March 2023, we opened this cafe together. Hadiya taught me how to grind beans and brew rich, flavorful coffee. Our lattes are made with local milk and Tanzanian coffee beans, a fusion that reflects the East-meets-West charm of Kashgar ancient city."

"With China's visa-free policy expanding its coverage, we're seeing more and more international visitors at our cafe," he added. As the business grows, securing a steady supply of coffee beans has become a top priority. "When we first started, we would bring beans back with us during family visits to Tanzania. Now, they're shipped via a more stable route - from Africa to Europe, then to Kashgar by China-Europe freight trains," he explained.

At the end of last year, construction began on the China–Kyrgyzstan–Uzbekistan Railway. Dilxat Tursun was among the first to celebrate the news. "This railway starts in Kashgar. We hope for its swift completion and operation, which would make coffee bean transport even easier. More importantly, I believe this project will open up more trade opportunities and improve daily life for people in the countries along the route," he said.

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#### June 25, 2025

#### **Global Times**

#### China-Bangladesh-Pakistan trilateral mechanism boosts regional growth

Liu Zongyi

On June 19, 2025, the China-Pakistan-Bangladesh Trilateral Vice Foreign Minister/Foreign Secretary meeting was held in Kunming, Southwest China's Yunnan Province. The meeting officially launched a structured trilateral cooperation mechanism. The three sides agreed to advance trilateral cooperation based on the principles of good-neighborliness, equality and mutual trust, openness and inclusiveness, common development and win-win cooperation. They agreed to explore and implement cooperation projects in various spheres and will establish a working group to follow up and implement the understandings reached during the meeting. This innovative mechanism transcends traditional bilateral and multilateral models in South Asia, offering a non-confrontational framework to jointly address modernization challenges.

Against the backdrop of sweeping global change, the South Asia and Indian Ocean regions are undergoing a structural realignment. After Bangladesh's interim government was formed in August 2024, India-Bangladesh ties suffered a setback. Following shifts in Bangladesh's domestic political landscape, Pakistan-Bangladesh ties warmed again - on December 19, 2024, Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif met with Bangladeshi interim government's Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus in Egypt during the 11th Developing Eight Organization for Economic Cooperation Summit. Meanwhile, a recent military incident between India and Pakistan shattered India's image as "South Asia's hegemon," greatly boosting Pakistani national morale and inspiring smaller South Asian states to unite, pursue diversified security strategies and bolster their confidence in regional peace, stability and development.

The South Asia and Indian Ocean region is not lacking in regional cooperation organizations. However, when it comes to economic development, there is a serious lack of coordination among countries in the region. India is the largest economy in the area, but it has limited economic complementarity with other regional countries, even intense industrial competition and conflicts of interests in some areas. While India lacks the capacity to drive regional economic development, it remains reluctant to see external countries assist its neighbors in advancing their economic and social progress, as it seeks to preserve its geopolitical dominance. Against this backdrop, the South Asia and Indian Ocean region requires innovative mechanisms to address the security dilemmas facing countries in the region, ensure peace and stability, and leverage external resources, including not only funding but also technology, knowledge, governance experience and even institutional frameworks.

China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) offers a rare opportunity for the economic and social development of South Asian and Indian Ocean countries, including Pakistan and Bangladesh. With the advancement of the BRI, China and these countries have jointly established various multilateral mechanisms such as the China-South Asia Forum on Poverty Reduction and Development Cooperation and the China-Indian Ocean Region Forum on Blue Economy Development Cooperation. However, a trilateral mechanism like the China-Bangladesh-Pakistan Vice Foreign Minister/Foreign Secretary meeting, focusing on economic development and the improvement of people's livelihoods, is the first of its kind.

Pakistan is China's largest investment destination in South Asia, while Bangladesh is the second-largest. China-Bangladesh-Pakistan trilateral cooperation provides a more convenient platform for sharing experiences in economic and social development. This form of

complementary cooperation goes beyond traditional aid models and, in line with the principle of "open regionalism," extends its openness to other countries in the region.

The emergence of China-Bangladesh-Pakistan cooperation marks a new phase in regional cooperation in South Asia. This trilateral meeting presents a fresh vision for South Asian countries: promoting security through development. As significant members of the Global South and key countries in the region, all three countries face the mission of national revitalization and modernization, and all require a peaceful and stable environment. Cooperation among China, Pakistan and Bangladesh aligns with the common interests of the three peoples and can contribute to regional peace, stability, development and prosperity.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202506/1336965.shtml

### China is a friend and brother, says Pakistan's Defense Minister at SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting

Unlike NATO, which is a military alliance, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) can help promote peace and serve as an important tool for safeguarding the development of countries in the region, said Pakistani Defense Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif on Wednesday when attending the SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province.

Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun met with Asif on the same day. Asif praised China's efforts in preventing the escalation of regional tensions, noting that recent months have seen rising instability and conflict across the region. He said Pakistan highly values its ironclad friendship with China and is willing to work closely with Beijing to implement the three major global initiatives, deepen practical defense cooperation, and jointly safeguard regional peace and stability. In a media interview later on, he described the meeting with Dong as "very fruitful," adding, "We are friends, we are brothers. We discussed matters of mutual interest." He said that SCO member states would unite to confront regional terrorism and work collectively for the region's stability. "We hope the SCO members will get together to fight this menace in this region and work for the stability of the countries of our region and the region as a whole," Asif said.

"SCO can be an alternate platform for cooperation within this region and also beyond," Asif told the Global Times among a group of reporters. "This platform can be a very important vehicle to further the peace in this region and protect the countries of this region so they can live in harmony and work for the economic development of our citizens."

Previously, the accession of Belarus was formalized at the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO in 2024. Since its inception in Shanghai in 2001, the SCO has so far expanded from a regional organization with six members into a trans-regional organization with 10 full members, two observer countries, and 14 dialogue partners, according to the Xinhua News Agency.

As the NATO summit began on Tuesday in The Hague, Netherlands, and is set to last for two days, Asif also emphasized the difference between NATO and the SCO. "NATO is basically a military alliance. It's a very exclusive club, completely influenced by Western countries."

In contrast, the SCO is not a military alliance, he said, adding that "it's more of an economic alliance. However, the situation that has developed over the past few months in this region definitely calls for security cooperation among SCO member states."

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202506/1336982.shtml

### SCO defense ministers agree to strengthen communication, promote cooperation

Guo Yuandan

The Defense Ministers' Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) member states was held in Qingdao, East China's Shandong Province on Thursday. Both the group photo featuring participating parties and the group visit to the site of the 2018 SCO summit drew the attention of global media. The fact that defense ministers from 10 countries gathered to discuss regional issues and reached a consensus, especially against the backdrop of frequent regional conflicts, demonstrates their shared desire to pursue cooperation and seek development, experts told the Global Times.

Chinese Defense Minister Dong Jun hosted the meeting and delivered remarks, the Xinhua News Agency reported on Thursday.

At a time when the international situation is intertwined with chaos and change, it is particularly important for the SCO to play the role of a stabilizing anchor, said Dong.

He noted that China is willing to work together with all member states to uphold the original aspirations of the SCO and promote the "Shanghai Spirit," firmly defend international fairness and justice, jointly address security challenges, and promote the steady and long-term development of defense and security cooperation in moves to provide stronger support for building a shared home featuring solidarity, mutual trust, peace, prosperity, development, good neighborliness and friendship, as well as fairness and justice.

All participating parties unanimously agreed to continue to strengthen strategic communication, promote practical cooperation, and work together to maintain regional peace and stability. The meeting was a complete success, according to the Xinhua report.

Zhang Chi, a military affairs expert at the National Defense University of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), told the Global Times at the sidelines of the meeting that the remarks by the Chinese side showed vision, responsibility, and action.

Zhang Chi said that the Chinese side emphasized that the SCO is open and inclusive, upholding solidarity, mutual trust, shared security, consensus-building through dialogue, and close coordination, with the goal of building an SCO community with a shared future. The Chinese side also stressed that the SCO will serve as a stabilizing anchor amid a turbulent and complex international landscape, with member states working together to safeguard regional peace and stability. China is committed to advancing practical cooperation alongside fellow SCO member states.

The meeting was attended by defense ministers from all 10 SCO member states, including India, Pakistan, and Iran, which have recently gone through conflicts. Through the discussions, all parties reached a consensus, agreeing to further strengthen strategic communication, advance practical cooperation, and jointly uphold regional peace and stability. Zhang said that this vividly exemplifies the "Shanghai Spirit," a spirit of mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality, consultation, respect for diverse civilizations, and pursuit of common development, thereby continuously advancing the building of an SCO community with a shared future.

The Global Times reporters also met many colleagues from other media outlets at the meeting, some of whom had also attended the 22nd Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. Since 2002, the Shangri-La Dialogue has become the biggest defense and security forum in the Asia-Pacific region, but many people have noted the differences between these two important

events: the Shangri-La Dialogue was highly confrontational, while the SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting was full of friendly trust.

Zhang Chi, who has participated in five editions of the Shangri-La Dialogue, said that it is an international conference led by the US and Western countries that often intentionally hypes some sensitive and disputed issues, and even sets traps to attack attendees. By comparison, the SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting gives all parties full respect and hosts friendly conversations and talks.

Another difference is that the US and Western countries often trigger confrontation at some international conferences, which leads to a deterioration of global and regional tensions. The SCO Defense Ministers' Meeting, however, advocates the safeguarding of regional peace and stability, the strengthening of strategic communication and promotion of pragmatic cooperation, which provides positive energy for the peaceful development of the world.

Briefing the media at a regular press conference on Thursday, Senior Colonel Zhang Xiaogang, a spokesperson at China's Ministry of National Defense, said that China is the rotating chair of the SCO this year, and hosting the Defense Minister's Meeting is an important part of its duties.

Throughout the process of the establishment and development of the SCO, defense and security cooperation has played an especially significant role. The Chinese side has actively promoted strategic communication, deepened substantive cooperation, and initiated many cooperation programs, Zhang Xiaogang said.

"United in cooperation, our journey will be long and steady. The Chinese military will work with militaries of other SCO member states to carry forward the 'Shanghai Spirit,' further broaden and deepen defense cooperation, and join hands in building a common home featuring solidarity and mutual trust, peace and tranquility, prosperity and development, good-neighborliness and friendship, and fairness and justice, thereby contributing to building a community with a shared future for mankind," said the spokesperson.

Song Zhongping, a Chinese military affairs expert, told the Global Times on Thursday that an important mission of the SCO is jointly countering terrorism, separatism and extremism, as these forces threaten all countries' national security as well as peace and stability in various regions. He stressed that the SCO is not a military alliance, nor does it target a third party, but an organization that boosts cooperation.

SCO member states are influential countries that play crucial roles in safeguarding regional peace and stability. The stronger they are, the more helpful they will be in playing such roles, Song said.

https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202506/1337036.shtml

#### June 27, 2025

#### People's Daily

### From Abbottabad to Beijing: A witness to enduring Pakistan-China friendship

Salman Bashir

I spent my childhood in Abbottabad, a picturesque town nestled among the mountains in northwest Pakistan. As early as the 1950s, a Chinese shoe shop stood prominently at the center of the town - a local landmark. My father often praised the exceptional craftsmanship of the Chinese shoemakers, whose leather shoes were considered the finest in town.

Throughout my teenage years, though no one in my family had ever visited China, it remained vivid in our imaginations. My grandmother often told me stories about the country: beyond the towering mountains north of Abbottabad lies another land, one with breathtaking landscapes and kind-hearted people.

Time passed, and the Karakoram Highway came into being - carved through rugged passes, to link Abbottabad closely with China. While that old Chinese shoe shop may have faded into history, a growing number of Chinese companies have since taken root in this region. As cooperation between Pakistan and China continues to deepen across various sectors, the friendship between our two peoples has grown more profound with time.

My connection with China has evolved from secondhand stories to lived experience. In 1980, I became a diplomat at the Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations in Geneva. The Cold War loomed large over the international landscape, but the Chinese delegation has always been our trusted partner at the United Nations. We often exchanged views on global affairs and our conversations were often followed by generous invitations to Chinese dinners. The warm hospitality of our Chinese colleagues made every visit feel like coming home. I was able to share my thoughts freely with dependable Chinese friends whose understanding and support were a constant source of reassurance.

Over the course of my 40-year diplomatic career, my time serving in China stands out as one of the most rewarding and enjoyable periods. In 2005, I was appointed Pakistan's ambassador to China, and my family shared my excitement. We spent three and a half wonderful years in the country.

During my tenure, I traveled extensively across China - from Kashgar in the far northwest to Dalian in the northeast and Guangzhou on the southern coast. The vitality and dynamism of this ancient land were truly awe-inspiring. The brilliance of Chinese civilization left me marveling time and again. Never before in human history, I believe, has a nation achieved such huge progress in such a short span of time. To witness and experience the great rejuvenation of the Chinese nation was one of the greatest privileges of my life.

When I first arrived in Beijing, the city was bustling with preparations for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games. The capital was transforming at an astonishing pace. The grandeur of the Beijing Olympics opening ceremony, attended by political dignitaries from more than 80 countries and regions, remains vivid in my memory. When the Pakistani delegation entered China's National Stadium, or the Bird's Nest, the crowd erupted in applause. The moment was electrifying, moving not only Pakistani officials present at the stadium but also countless Pakistanis watching at home.

Another unforgettable moment was in 2005, when a powerful earthquake struck northern Pakistan. China was among the first to respond, dispatching an international rescue team that was one of the earliest to reach the hardest-hit areas. Over the following month, China sent 10 shipments of emergency supplies - over 1,900 tons in total - delivered on 24 flights. These supplies brought crucial aid and comfort to affected communities.

When the Chinese rescue team completed their mission and returned home, I went to the airport to welcome them. There, I heard deeply touching stories: many survivors, despite losing everything, still shared their remaining supplies with the rescue workers. Many of the team members were brought to tears by such selfless gestures. It was a moment of profound reciprocity, a moving reminder of the compassion that transcends borders.

That sense of solidarity has never faded. In 2008, when a devastating earthquake struck Wenchuan in China's Sichuan province, I had already returned to Islamabad for official duties, but my wife and children were still in Beijing. My son and daughter held up the Pakistani flag as they stood with the Chinese people in mourning. It was more than a symbolic gesture - it was a heartfelt expression of our family's sorrow and unwavering support. I firmly believe that no matter how the global landscape may change, the people of Pakistan and China will always stand together. Ours is a friendship as solid as rock and as enduring as time.

My love for China began over half a century ago in that little town of Abbottabad. It has followed me throughout my life, shaping and enriching my journey. And now, that connection is being passed down: my granddaughter, only two months old, will one day hear stories about China from her grandparents and her father, who is studying at Peking University. I have no doubt that the next generation of our family will also witness the unfolding of China's remarkable legends - and watch the Pakistan-China friendship bloom ever more brilliantly in this new era.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0627/c90000-20333519.html

### Chinese volunteers join hands with Pakistani charity hospital to serve underprivileged patients

ISLAMABAD, June 26 (Xinhua) -- A Beijing-based non-government organization, Beijing One Heart Sphere Charity Foundation, has signed a memorandum of understanding with Fatima Tuz Zahra Medical Center, a charity hospital in Pakistan's capital, to jointly provide medical assistance to underprivileged communities.

At a ceremony held in Islamabad on Wednesday, the two organizations pledged to strengthen cooperation in delivering free and low-cost healthcare to patients in need, while promoting people-to-people bonds between China and Pakistan.

Muhammad Bahadur Khan, director of the medical center, said the collaboration is rooted in the shared mission of serving humanity without borders.

"We share a deeply rooted commitment with our Chinese counterparts to bring relief, dignity, and health to those who can not afford proper medical care," said Khan. "This cooperation is not just a mission statement for us, it is the very heartbeat of our existence."

He noted that the partnership will help expand the hospital's services, improve medical infrastructure, and build greater community trust. "This is about more than just increasing capacity, it's about creating hope, healing lives, and restoring faith in healthcare for the most vulnerable," Khan added. Speaking at the event, Qiu Xu, founder of the Beijing One Heart

Sphere Charity Foundation, said the foundation aims to bring more Chinese medical expertise and resources to Pakistan through such collaboration.

Volunteers from the foundation also visited various departments of the hospital and met with staff and patients. Patients at the facility expressed gratitude for the new partnership, saying that the medical center has been a lifeline for many low-income families. "I have been receiving treatment here for months at a very low cost. Knowing that more support is coming from our Chinese friends gives me hope for better facilities and care," said Arshad Mehmood, a patient. The medical center has long served marginalized communities in Islamabad and its surrounding areas with subsidized treatment in various specialties, including gynecology and diagnostics.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0627/c90000-20333530.html

### CIIE reflects China's commitment to global development: Chinese ambassador

GENEVA, June 26 (Xinhua) -- A seminar focused on the China-proposed Global Development Initiative (GDI) was jointly held on Wednesday by the Permanent Mission of China to the United Nations Office in Geneva and the China International Import Expo (CIIE) Bureau.

Representatives from international organizations, diplomatic missions in Geneva and global businesses attending the event praised China's continued efforts to open up to the world and promote shared development.

Ambassador Chen Xu, China's permanent representative to the UN Office in Geneva and other international organizations in Switzerland, said that since its launch in 2021, the GDI has taken root on Geneva's multilateral platforms, with growing consensus and expanding cooperation networks.

The CIIE, as a global public good, has become an important practice for China to deepen economic and trade cooperation with other developing countries, Chen said. "It demonstrates China's commitment to global development cooperation," he added.

According to official data, the CIIE has been held seven consecutive times since its inception in 2018, attracting participation from more than 180 countries, regions, and international organizations.

Luz Maria de la Mora, director of the Division on International Trade and Commodities at UN Trade and Development (UNCTAD), said she attended the CIIE in 2019 and witnessed "how China opens its doors to the world and how trade can be a source of economic opportunities for all."

High-level representatives from international organizations expressed their support for the CIIE and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. They also voiced their readiness to strengthen cooperation with China to promote inclusive economic globalization that benefits all.

The ambassadors of Pakistan, Cambodia, Peru, and other members of the Group of Friends of the GDI expressed their appreciation for China and the CIIE, calling the expo an important platform for advancing the initiative.

https://en.people.cn/n3/2025/0627/c90000-20333549.html