

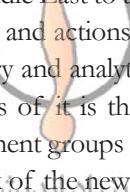


## The Rise of China's New-Type Think Tanks and the Internationalization of the State

By: Jane Hayward

China's government is promoting new-type think tanks. These are often treated with skepticism by Western observers, due to their lack of independence from government and operation within a controlled intellectual environment. In this article, I heed recent calls by scholars to analyze think tanks, and how they develop, in their particular national political contexts. In China's case, this is a powerful one-party state undergoing internationalization: usually understood as increased foreign exchanges, engagement with international institutions, and rising influence globally. In contrast, I view internationalization as the reorganizing of China's state institutions and social structure in order to integrate with the global capitalist system. Through these processes, China's policymaking community is converging with a powerful transnational class aligned with global capitalist interests. Think tanks are implicated in these processes, and are therefore involved in shaping capitalist class dynamics within China. This is a cause for concern and debate among policy makers, regarding "civil" think tanks in particular, which are non-governmental and privately funded. Drawing on interviews with Chinese think-tank scholars, and examining policy debates on the development of think tanks in Chinese academic and policy journals, I argue that the sphere of think tanks has become an important site of political contestation concerning China's internationalization and the impact of class power on national policy making. Western observers, too often viewing independence as the key criterion for evaluating China's think tanks, miss the significance of these debates. The relations between think tanks and government institutions must be understood in this political context.

**Keywords:** China, think tanks, policy making, internationalization of the state, globalization, technocracy



## Afghanistan; The Promised Geopolitics for New Order

By: Sardar Mohammad Rahimi and Abbas Arefi

Theoretical means for security and military strategies help the road map of measures and outcome of the activities of big powers to be clearer in the context of their rivalries and strategic goals. The new world order reflects goals, initiatives and results that one can perceive for military, political and economic supremacy of the US. To this end, the geographical sphere of the measures of super powers shall have its own theoretical bases in the framework of their main strategies. South and Central Asia are some interesting domains besides middle east that have the ability to influence global equations for the US; especially considering the proximity of three big powers (Russia, China and India) to these regions and as the relevant domain to the middle east that can have its strategic attractions and requirements for the US to play its role in these regions.

This article seeks to identify the attraction of Afghanistan as a relevant domain to the South Asia, Central Asia and Middle East to the new world order strategy and paradigms of Doomsday as the means and actions of radical groups like ISIS that feels rising in Afghanistan. Using library and analytical method, this research seeks to know whether Afghanistan or parts of it is the promised geography that has functions for both radical non-government groups like ISIS and its branch KIS and the US strategic goals in the framework of the new world order strategy.

**Keywords:** Afghanistan, New world order, promised geography, ISIS.

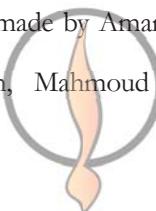


## Analysis of Afghanistan and England Relations During Amanullah Khan's Era

By: Faruq Ansari

Relations between Afghanistan and UK enjoys high importance in the new Afghan Diplomacy; because during this period, Afghanistan was independent after half a century the England controlled its foreign relations. Afghanistan received its independence by war and three rounds of negotiations from the England. The England recognized the independence of Afghanistan due to some reasons including the international post-World War I new conditions, by signing the friendship and Trade Treaty with Afghanistan in 1921. However, the relations between the two countries was not much friendly and specially the England tried to topple Amanullah Khan's government directly or indirectly. As a result, Amanullah Khan's government collapsed and the country was gripped by crisis and instability due to some severe mistakes made by Amanullah Khan's government again.

**Keywords:** King Amanullah, Mahmoud Tarzi, Afghanistan Independence, Relations with England.



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## Afghanistan: background and U. S. Policy in brief

By: Clayton Thomas

This report provides background information and analysis on U.S. policy in Afghanistan, with a focus on two interrelated developments: The February 2020 U.S.-Taliban agreement on U.S. troop withdrawals and Taliban counterterrorism assurances. Ongoing intra-Afghan negotiations, which began in Doha, Qatar, in September 2020, aimed at reaching a political settlement to end the war.

The report also provides information on security dynamics related to the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan and related questions about the future of the United States' military presence and development and security assistance (which has totaled approximately \$141 billion over the past 18 years).

**Keywords:** Afghanistan, United State, Taliban, America, Taliban's Agreement, Peace Talks, Pakistan, Al-Qaeda.



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## Regional Convergence on Helmand Issue

By: Ruhollah Shaikhzada

Conflicts on waters has existed both in countries and at the international level for centuries. In the meantime, the hydro political role of Helmand River and the issue of its water right impacted on Afghanistan and Iran relations since 1857. Until now, it has seen 6 legal systems; however, the political differences between the two countries have prevented the full implementation of these systems. Besides legal agreements, a clear understanding of the potentials of the two countries in order to cooperate in economic field and expanding such relations to other domains are some of the approaches that can help create convergence between the two countries and reduce tensions between them.

**Keywords:** Hydro politics, convergence, mutual dependence, overlapping, regionalism.



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## India-Pakistan Rivalry in Afghanistan

By: Zachary Costantino

India and Pakistan pursue mutually exclusive objectives in Afghanistan and leverage sharply different tools to achieve their respective goals. Pakistan utilizes militant groups, including the Afghan Taliban, as strategic proxies, while India places considerable weight on its soft power influence among Afghans. India and Pakistan view the intentions and capabilities of each other through an adversarial lens. Pakistan, however, vastly misreads and exaggerates India's activities in Afghanistan. Pakistan is the regional actor with the most influence in Afghanistan owing to its patronage of a resilient Taliban insurgency, though the Pakistan-Taliban relationship is replete with tension. India believes supporting the existing Afghan system best serves its interests, a policy informed by the lack of plausible alternatives. New Delhi is unlikely to acquire, let alone deploy, the military power necessary to generate conditions favorable to Kabul. Pakistan may decide to punish India in Afghanistan over India's decision to mainstream the disputed territory of Kashmir. The incentives for Islamabad to intensify proxy warfare against India's presence in Afghanistan would sharply increase should the United States decide to abruptly withdraw from Afghanistan without a broad-based intra-Afghan peace deal in place. Confidence-building measures constructed around transparency and economic cooperation is not likely to improve India-Pakistan relations. Nevertheless, an inclusive Afghan settlement should at least reduce prospects for violence between India and Pakistan in Afghanistan, though means for Pakistan to conduct proxy violence against India are likely to persist.

## Russia's Strategic Calculus in South Asia and Pakistan's Role: Challenges and Prospects

By: Ume Farwa<sup>1</sup>

Russia has begun to adopt a politically pronounced approach towards Pakistan, which indicates a shift in Moscow's long-standing patterns of engagement with Islamabad. Against this background, this paper attempts to address this question as to what role Pakistan can play in Russia's strategic calculus in South Asia and what policy options need to be adopted for capitalising on Kremlin's shifting posture. In terms of achieving its strategic, political and economic goals, Russia seems to assign a special place to Pakistan and this was reflected in Moscow's engagement with Islamabad in the Afghan peace and reconciliation process, military-to-military collaboration and defence cooperation. Indeed, Pakistan fits well in Russia's South Asia strategic calculus and the two countries can benefit a great deal from each other but the fact remains that there are many impediments and irritants as well. Moscow-Islamabad ties can flourish fully only if intensive dialogues are regularly convened between civil, military and economic institutions. Besides, Pakistan must expand and diversify its foreign policy options for capitalising the most from changing regional and international scenarios of which Russia's evolving South Asia posture is but one element.

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**Keywords:** Pakistan-Russia Relations, South Asia, Strategic Calculus, Afghan Peace Process.



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## Post-Cold War Geopolitical Shift; Terrorism Geography and its Effects on Afghanistan Continued Instability

By: Sardar Mohamamrd Rahimi

Collapse of the bipolar system created a vacuum that changed Afghanistan to the battlefield of regional powers and neighboring countries of Afghanistan. Afghanistan was forgotten by the Western countries and the Soviet Union struggling with the aftermaths of the collapse of Eastern Bloc Nations. On the other hand, Afghan Mujahidin were misused after toppling the USSR puppet government as ethnic-military and political groups by the neighboring countries and regional powers.

Continuation of civil war among Mujahidin factions due to internal difference and internal interventions and lack of a strong and inclusive state paved the ground for emergence of a third power namely hardline Taliban and then their Ideological-military supporters, Al-Qaeda Terrorist group, in Afghanistan. In fact, Afghanistan changed to the most important safe haven of terrorist groups for a specific period after the cold war era. Afghanistan is still the center of conflicts and operations of hardline and terrorist groups namely Taliban and ISIS.

Conditions of International order after September 11 and the characteristics of the New World Order led by the US, has still kept the country at the center of the focus of the hardline and terrorist groups namely Taliban and ISIS.

This article intends to assess how Geography of terrorism was formed due to post-cold war geopolitical shift and its effects on Afghanistan.

**Keywords:** Cold war geopolitical shift, terrorism geography, Afghanistan, Geo-terrorism



## Afghanistan Health Diplomacy during Corona Virus Pandemic (Year 2020)

By: Amanullah Shafaie

Corona Virus pandemic involved all areas and sectors and affected international relations and foreign affairs of the states. After Corona Various Pandemic the nature and importance of health diplomacy was further acknowledged. It seemed as Afghanistan foreign policy was unfamiliar with health diplomacy so far. The main idea of this article is to show how Afghanistan foreign policy has performed according to the needs and principles of health diplomacy after corona virus pandemic, what opportunities has been created and what challenges it has faced.

The writer believes that Afghanistan foreign policy has shown signs of Actions in the framework of heath diplomacy during corona virus pandemic. The findings of the research show, though Afghan leaders succeeded during corona virus to integrate media diplomacy with health diplomacy to address the health requirements of the Afghan citizens to some extents; however, Afghanistan foreign policy is very far from the ideal aim to maximal use of health diplomacy capacity and ensuring the national interests of the country.

**Keywords:** Foreign policy, international relations, health diplomacy, corona epidemic, Afghanistan

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