



PROGRAMME

Seminar

on

Understanding Strategic Coercion in the Realm of Gray Hybrid Conflict: Implications for Pakistan

Monday, February 11, 2019

Organized by:

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad

Concept Note

Under the shadow of nuclear weapons and the role of non-state actors, international conflict in the twenty-first century has assumed far more complicated dimensions. The post-Cold War international order witnessed strategic uncertainty where the prospects of traditional inter-state wars started to decline and new or de-statised wars gained momentum. Evolving through the periods of fourth-generation and compound warfare, the contemporary strategic environment has entered into a new millennium of hybrid conflicts which are facilitated by the globalization and information technology developments.

Hybrid warfare, non-linear war, or conflict in "the gray zone" is a synchronized use of instruments of power targeting specific vulnerabilities across the full spectrum of societal functions to achieve desired results. The main aspect that sets it apart from the attention-based conventional warfare is the capability of state and non-state actors to systematically use the creativity, ambiguity, non-linearity and cognitive elements of warfare to exploit the perceived vulnerabilities of critical infrastructures in Military, Political, Economic, Civil, and Informational (MPECI) domains of the opponent. In hybrid conflict, opponent brings into play an innovative combination of MPECI techniques including economic pressure, support for local opposition groups, disinformation, and criminal activity to design a unique coercive hybrid attack which stays below the national threat and international legal thresholds. The attack can be detected only after its successful execution and manifestation of destructive effects. Furthermore, the capability to retaliate is hampered by the inaccessibility to accurate information since the targeted vulnerabilities are far beyond the domain of traditional threat assessments.

These changing contours of modern conflict have also transformed the battlefields in South Asia which is one of the significant epicentres of instability in the globalized world. In this context, the hybrid threats to the security of Pakistan have become an exceptional fusion of fervent irregular warfare and lethality of state conflict e.g. terrorism, insurgencies,

cyber-attacks, weaponization of social media, resource warfare, territorial disputes, and electronic media war.

Countering hybrid warfare requires a comprehensive threat and capability assessment. The hybrid threats are beyond the scope of traditional security ambit of a state; and therefore, require coherent and coordinated efforts by many institutions. In this regard, the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad is organizing a one-day Seminar on “**Understanding Strategic Coercion in the Realm of Gray Hybrid Conflict: Implications for Pakistan.**”

For this purpose, the proceedings of the Seminar will be based on three broad themes/presentations by national and international experts:

1. *Identifying Doctrines and the Nature of Gray Hybrid Threats in the 21st Century*
2. *Strategic Coercion in the Age of Hybrid Conflict: Adversaries and Challenges in South Asia*
3. *Pakistan and Hybrid Conflict: Vulnerabilities, Capabilities and Policy Responses*

Objectives:

- 1) Explore the changing character of conflicts and contextualize the various components of hybrid conflict to develop a joint conceptual understanding.
- 2) Analyze the impacts of hybrid threats on South Asia, particularly Pakistan, and their significance within the international and regional strategic environment.
- 3) Bring together a core group of national and international experts for crucial discussions towards constructing a strategic narrative and produce policy-relevant recommendations for countering hybrid conflict.

Seminar Programme

INAUGURAL SESSION

- 1015 hrs: Registration
- 1030 hrs: Recitation from the Holy Quran
- 1035 hrs: **Welcome Remarks** - Amb. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, *Director General, ISSI*
- 1040 hrs: **Inaugural Address** - Gen. Zubair Mahmood Hayat NI (M), *Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee*
- 1100 hrs: Group Photo followed by Tea/Coffee Break

WORKING SESSION

Chair: Amb. Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, *Director General, ISSI*

Presentations:

- 1130 hrs: **Identifying Doctrines and the Nature of Gray Hybrid Threats in the 21st Century**
Mr. Leonid Savin, *Geopolitical Analyst, Russia*
- 1150 hrs: **Strategic Coercion in the Age of Hybrid Conflict: Adversaries and Challenges in South Asia**
Mr. Ikram Sehgal, *Defense and Security Analyst, Pakistan*
- 1210 hrs: **Pakistan and Hybrid Conflict: Vulnerabilities, Capabilities and Policy Responses**
Lt. Gen. Naeem Khalid Lodhi HI (M), *Former Defense Secretary, Pakistan*

1230 hrs: Interactive Discussion

1300 hrs: **Concluding Remarks** - Amb. Khalid Mahmood,
Chairman BoG, ISSI

1305 hrs: Lunch

Chief Guest

General Zubair Mahmood Hayat NI (M)

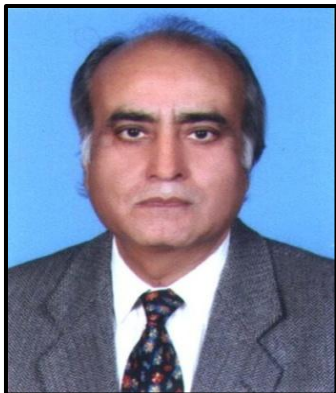
Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee



General Zubair Mahmood Hayat NI (M) was commissioned in Pakistan Army in Artillery Regiment on October 24, 1980. He is a graduate of Fort Sill Oklahoma, USA, Command and Staff College, Camberley, United Kingdom and National Defense University, Islamabad. He has vast experience of command, staff and instructional appointments. He has commanded an Artillery Regiment, Mechanized Artillery Division, an Infantry Brigade and an Infantry Division. He has been Adjutant at Pakistan Military Academy (PMA), Brigade Major of an Infantry Brigade and Air Advisor at Pakistan Embassy in the UK. He has also been Chief of Staff of Strike Corps, Private Secretary to Chief of Army Staff and Director General, Staff Studies Directorate at General Headquarters, Rawalpindi. He has also held the appointment of Director General, Strategic Plan Division (SPD). He has commanded 31 Corps Bahawalpur.

Ambassador Khalid Mahmood

Chairman BoG, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)



Ambassador Khalid Mahmood is Chairman Board of Governors, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI). He is also a member of the Asian Regional Forum (ARF) Experts and Eminent Persons Group, President Islamabad Council of World Affairs (ICWA) and Course Director at the Foreign Service Academy, Islamabad.

Ambassador Khalid Mahmood is a former Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq and Mongolia. He has also served as Deputy Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations, New York. He has also worked as Director General (UN) and later as Additional Secretary (United Nations, Asia-Pacific and Africa) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad. He is also a Former Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and member UN Peace-Building Fund Advisory Group, New York.

He is a former President of the Institute of Regional Studies Islamabad, former President, Association of Former Ambassadors of Pakistan (AFA) and former member Board of Governors, Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry

Director General, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI)

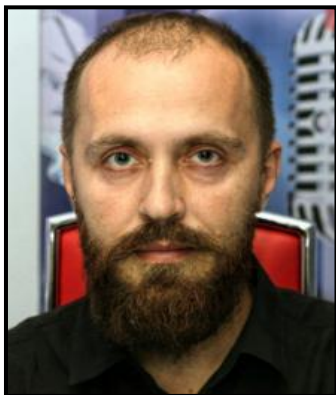


Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry is Director General, Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI). He has served as a member of the Foreign Service of Pakistan for 37 years. His last assignment was Ambassador of Pakistan to the United States of America. Earlier, he served as Foreign Secretary of Pakistan and participated actively in high level foreign policy discussions from December, 2013 to March, 2017. Prior to this, he served as the Foreign Office Spokesman. He

continued his active engagement with Pakistani and foreign media as Foreign Secretary, and later as Ambassador to the US. He has also served as Ambassador of Pakistan to the Netherlands, where he engaged in active public diplomacy in cooperation with Pakistani community to win friends for Pakistan. He has also authored a book “Pakistan Mirrored to Dutch Eyes” published by Sangemeel publications. He served as Additional Foreign Secretary for UN and Arms Control and Disarmament Affairs in Ministry of Foreign Affairs and as Deputy Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations in New York, and Chef de Cabinet to the Secretary General of ECO in Iran.

Speakers

Mr. Leonid Savin



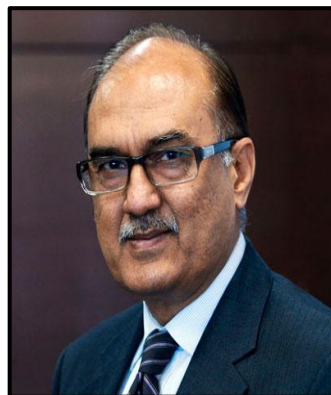
Mr. Leonid Savin is a geopolitical analyst, Chief Editor of Geopolitica.ru (from 2008), founder and Chief Editor of Journal of Eurasian Affairs (eurasianaffairs.net). He is the head of the administration of International Eurasian Movement and former Chief Editor of Katehon think-tank and magazine (2015-2017). He is also the Director of the Foundation of Monitoring and Forecasting of Development for the Cultural-Territorial Spaces (FMPRKTP) and a member of Military-Scientific Society, Ministry of Defense of the Russian Federation. Mr. Savin has authored numerous books on geopolitics, conflicts, international relations and political philosophy issued in Russia, Ukraine, Spain, Serbia and Iran.

Mr. Ikram Seghal



Mr. Ikram Seghal is a senior defense analyst and Chairman of Karachi Council on Foreign Relations. He studied at Lawrence College, Murari Chand College, Notre Dame College and the Pakistan Military Academy (PMA). He was commissioned into Pakistan Army in 1965. He was given a battlefield promotion to the rank of Major and took early retirement in 1974. He worked as a commercial pilot before starting his own business in 1977. A regular columnist in the print media since 1987, he graduated to his own TV Talk Show. He is also a member of World Economic Forum (WEF), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the Chairman of Pathfinder G4S, Pakistan.

Lt. Gen. Naeem Khalid Lodhi HI (M)



Lt. Gen. Naeem Khalid Lodhi HI (M) was commissioned in the Army on October 27, 1974. He has Bachelors in Engineering (Civil). Lt. Gen. Naeem Lodhi is a graduate of Command and Staff College, Quetta and National Defense University, Islamabad. He also holds a Masters in International Relations. He has served on various command, staff and instructional assignments during his career in the Army, including the important appointments of Directing Staff at

National Defense University Islamabad, Commander Corps of Engineers, Director General Engineering Directorate, Director General, Staff Duties Directorate, General Officer Commanding Bahawalpur and Corps Commander Bahawalpur. Lt. Gen. Naeem Lodhi has also served as the Defense Secretary of Pakistan. Previously, he has also remained the Chief Executive and Managing Director of Fauji Fertilizer Co. Ltd and FFC Energy Limited.