

# INSTITUTE OF STRATEGIC STUDIES ISLAMABAD (ISSI)

*Strategic Perspectives through Research & Dialogue*

April-June 2021

## NEWSLETTER

### Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad Celebrates 48th Foundation Day

Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) celebrated its 48th Foundation Day with full zeal and zest on June 16, 2021 and renewed commitment to further deepen its work of providing objective analyses on national and international issues and enhancing understanding of public on issues of peace and security in Pakistan.

The event on the 48th Foundation Day of ISSI was held at the Library Hall in which leadership of Ministry of Foreign Affairs, research faculty and staff of the Institute along with their spouses participated. Honourable Foreign Minister Makhdoom Shah Mehmood Qureshi graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Foreign Secretary Mr. Sohail Mahmood was Guest of Honour.

Foreign Minister during his address praised leadership, research faculty and staff for their hard work and dedication. At this occasion, Foreign Minister also inaugurated newly renovated Conference Room and Library Hall of the Institute which has been upgraded as part of ISSI Building renovation which commenced in 2020.



### Inauguration of “Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP)”

The Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) inaugurated its fifth centre of excellence, the Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP), on June 3, 2021. Lt. General Mian Hilal Hussain, HI (M) (Retd.), Secretary Defense, Government of Pakistan was the Chief Guest at the occasion.

In his keynote address, the Chief Guest Lt. General Hilal Hussain stated that the establishment of the Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) is a very timely initiative, keeping in view the changing dynamics and transformations that the world is currently undergoing.

Director General ISSI, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmed Chaudhary, in his welcome address stated that the ISSI is fully committed to providing inputs to the government of Pakistan and that the institute aims to synergize its work and be relevant to policy makers in Pakistan.

A detailed presentation was given by the Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique in which he introduced the newly established centre of excellence and gave a briefing about the activities and working of the centre. He said that CSP envisions giving tangible inputs for policy makers as well as disseminating information and engaging experts in dialogue.





## Launch of the book titled “The Covid Challenge: Impact on the Middle East & Africa”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had the official launch of its first edited book titled, “*The Covid Challenge: Impact on Middle East & Africa*” on April 12, 2021. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Sania Nishtar, Special Assistant of Pakistan’s Prime Minister and Federal Minister, Poverty Alleviation and Social Safety Ministry. The Chief Guest on the occasion was Mr. Shafqat Mahmood, Federal Minister for Education. Other distinguished discussants included: Dr. Khalid Hussain Memon, Special Secretary Middle East, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan; Mr. Ali Javed, Additional Secretary Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan; and Ambassador Rizwan- ul-Haq Mahmood, Former Pakistani Diplomat to Muscat, Abu Dhabi & Jeddah.



The book was introduced by Ms. Amina Khan, Director, CAMEA while the welcome remarks were delivered by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI at the beginning of the ceremony, in which he congratulated CAMEA and outlined how ISSI has created a vision of which the edited books are a part of. He said that this book is a diverse read and provides a silver lining for a world that is now rediscovering the importance of cooperating with each other.

At the conclusion of the event, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI presented the Institute’s shields to the distinguished guests.

## Public Talk by H.E. Danila Ganich, Ambassador of Russia to Pakistan on “Future of Pak-Russia Relations”

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI organized a Public Talk with H.E. Danila Ganich, Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Pakistan, on April 14, 2021. The title of the Public Talk was, “*Future of Pak-Russia Relations*”. Introductory remarks were presented by Mr. Najam Rafique, Director, CSP while welcome remarks were delivered by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI.

Responding to the important aspects of Moscow-Islamabad ties, Ambassador Danila Ganich stated that the most promising areas of bilateral cooperation lie in the political arena, international affairs, Afghanistan, and multilateral foras such as United Nations (UN), Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).



The talk was followed by a lively interactive question-answer session. The talk concluded with a vote of thanks by Chairman BOG, ISSI, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood.

## In-House Meeting with Mr. Jean Arnault, UN Secretary General’s Personal Envoy on Afghanistan

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI hosted an In-House Meeting with Mr. Jean Arnault, UN Secretary General’s Personal Envoy on Afghanistan and Regional Issues on June 18, 2021.

Director CAMEA, Ms. Amina Khan delivered introductory remarks. Director General, ISSI Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry gave a brief overview of the situation in Afghanistan and the consistent and constructive role Pakistan has been trying to play in achieving peace and stability in Afghanistan.

During the interaction, views were exchanged on the latest developments within Afghanistan, impediments to the peace process, the role of the region, international community and the UN towards the overall future of Afghanistan. Focus was

also laid on a regional approach towards peace and stability in Afghanistan, and bringing together all concerned stakeholders through consensus and cooperation. The UN’s ongoing role in Afghanistan was also discussed.





## Public Talk on “Climate Change: Challenges and Options for Pakistan” by Malik Amin Aslam, Minister for Climate Change

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI under its Distinguished Lecture Series organized a virtual Public Talk titled, “Climate Change: Challenges and Options for Pakistan” on June 2, 2021. The event was part of Pakistan’s Environment Day celebrations. Honourable Malik Amin Aslam, Minister and Advisor to the Prime Minister on Climate Change was the main speaker of the event who delivered an extensive talk on the subject.

Welcome remarks at the beginning of the talk were delivered by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI.

During his remarks, Mr. Amin Aslam elaborated on all the aspects of climate-related challenges and options for Pakistan. He identified and elaborated nature-oriented programs that the current government is undertaking in order to mitigate the impact of climate change. He said that the introduction of the Green Eurobond will add to green credibility of the country’s business profile.

The event concluded with the remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI.



## Web Celebration on “Africa Day”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Web-Celebration on the occasion of Africa Day on May 25, 2021. The distinguished speakers included: H.E. Shah Mahmood Qureshi, Foreign Minister of Pakistan; Mr. Sohail Mahmood, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan; Ambassador Ali Javed, Additional Secretary Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan; Maj. Gen. Zahid Mehmood from the Ministry of Defence; and Mr. Mohammad Nasir Mirza, President, Rawalpindi, Chamber of Commerce.

Representatives from African missions in Pakistan, Pakistani missions in Africa, non-residential African missions to Pakistan, academics, members of the business community and students also joined the web-celebration.

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI presented welcome remarks during the opening session. The plenary session of the web celebration was moderated by Ms. Amina Khan, Director, CAMEA. The event ended with the concluding remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI.



## Panel Discussion “Pakistan-China-Afghanistan: Prospects of Trilateral Cooperation for Regional Stability”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Panel Discussion on “Pakistan-China-Afghanistan: Prospects of Trilateral Cooperation for Regional Stability” on May 27, 2021. The distinguished speakers included: Ambassador Masood Khalid, Former Pakistani Ambassador to China, Ambassador Omar Samad, Non-resident Senior Fellow, Atlantic Council and Prof. Lin Minwang, Deputy Director of the Center for South Asian Studies and Assistant to the Dean of the Institute of International Studies at Fudan University, China.

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman ISSI and Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at ISSI took part in the discussion. Concluding remarks were delivered by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI.





### Webinar to commemorate “Youm-e-Takbeer: Celebrating Peaceful and Prosperous Nuclear Pakistan”

The Arms Control and Disarmament Centre (ACDC) at ISSI celebrated the 23rd anniversary of Youm-e-Takbeer on May 28, 2021. The eminent speakers included Brig. Zahir Kazmi, Director General, ACDA-SPD; Mr Muhammad Kamran Akhtar, Director, ACDIS, MOFA; Dr. Rizwana Abbasi, Associate Professor, NUML; Dr. Pervaiz Butt, former Chairman PAEC; and Air Cdre. (Retd.) Khalid Banuri, Advisor SPD.

Welcome remarks were delivered by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI while introductory remarks at the beginning of the webinar were given by Mr. Malik Qasim Mustafa, Director, ACDC. After the remarks of distinguished panellists, the event ended with the concluding remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI.



### Panel Discussion on “The Next Chapter for Afghanistan”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Panel Discussion titled “The Next Chapter for Afghanistan” on April 28, 2021. The distinguished panel of experts included: Mr. Mirwais Yasini, Former Deputy Speaker of the Lower House of the Afghan Parliament; Dr. Jonathan Schroden, Director of Countering Threats and Challenges Program (CTCP) at the Center for Naval Analyses (CNA); Ms. Suzanne Schroeder, independent analyst and Ambassador Riaz M. Khan, Former Foreign Secretary of Pakistan.

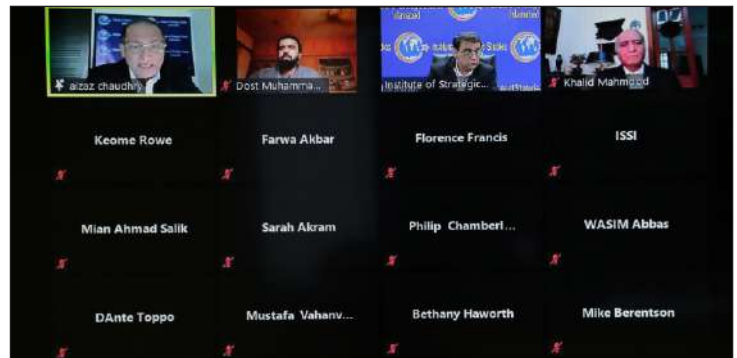
Introductory remarks were delivered by Ms. Amina Khan, Director CAMEA. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General ISSI and Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG ISSI joined in the interactive discussion which followed the panellists remarks.



### Virtual briefing to the FAST diplomats at the US embassy

The Centre for Strategic Perspective (CSP) at ISSI held a virtual presentation by Director General ISSI, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry on “Pakistan-US Relations” for the First and Second Tour (FAST) diplomats at the US embassy in Pakistan on May 6, 2021. Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique welcomed the diplomats and briefed them on ISSI and the work being done by the Institute.

Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, DG, ISSI in his presentation said that overall, bilateral ties have remained robust. Despite the frequent highs and lows in the relationship, it has been very dynamic and has sustained the test of times. Ambassador Chaudhry said that developments in four areas – US competition with China, Afghanistan, US support to India and bilateral relations with Pakistan – will have strategic implications for Pakistan-US relations.



### Public Talk by H.E. Dr. Geoffrey Shaw, Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI organized a Public Talk in its Ambassador’s Platform series titled, “Australia’s Perspective on the Indo-Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities,” on May 26, 2021. H.E. Dr. Geoffrey Shaw, Australian High Commissioner to Pakistan was the guest speaker on the occasion. The talk was moderated by Mr. Najam Rafique, Director CSP.

Welcome remarks were presented by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI. During his remarks, H.E. Dr. Geoffrey Shaw touched upon the different contours of Pak-Australia relationship and the prevailing regional dynamics, with a special focus on the developments in the Indo-Pacific region and QUAD.

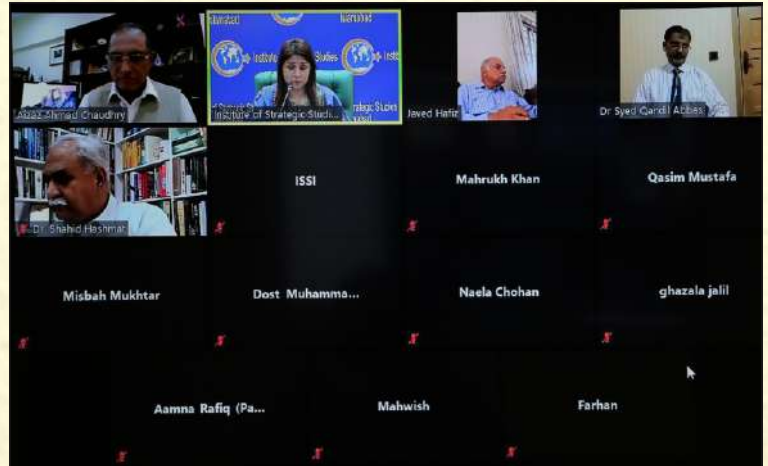




## Panel Discussion on “China-Iran Deal: Prospects for Pakistan”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Panel Discussion on “China-Iran Deal: Prospects for Pakistan” on June 10, 2021. The distinguished speakers included: Dr. Syed Qandil Abbas, Assistant Professor, SPIR, QAU; Dr. Ali Ahmadi, scholar and analyst based in Tehran and Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director, CPSC, ISSI who presented their remarks during the working session of the discussion.

Opening remarks were given by Ms. Amina Khan, Director, CAMEA. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI and Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI also took part in the discussion and delivered the welcome and concluding remarks respectively.



## Virtual In-House Meeting with Pakistan's Charge d'Affaires in Paris on Current State of relations between Pakistan and France: Challenges and Way Forward

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI organized an In-House Meeting under Chatham House rules on “Current State of Relations between Pakistan and France: Challenges and Way Forward” on June 22, 2021 at ISSI.

Mr. Amjad Aziz Qazi, Pakistan’s Charge d’Affaires in Paris was the keynote speaker at the meeting. Ambassador Ghalib Iqbal, former Ambassador of Pakistan to France and Dr. Uzma Shujaat, Director, Area Study Centre for Europe, Karachi University also participated in the meeting as main discussants. The participants discussed the challenges, prospects and the way forward for improving bilateral relations between Pakistan and France. They made some valuable and positive suggestions to break the current deadlock and improve Pakistan-French relations. The suggestions and recommendations in this regard will be shared with the relevant officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other stakeholders.



## Public Talk on “China-Pakistan COVID-19 Cooperation”

The China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at ISSI hosted a Public Talk titled “China-Pakistan COVID-19 Cooperation” on April 1, 2021. Major General Aamer Ikram, ED, National Institute of Health (NIH) was the Chief Guest at the occasion. Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director, CPSC gave opening remarks while the interactive discussion after the chief guest's talk was moderated by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI.

Maj. Gen. Aamer highlighted the joint efforts undertaken by Chinese and Pakistani medical experts since the outbreak of Corona virus. He said that China has provided support in multiple ways and have been very dedicated towards assisting Pakistan in these challenging times. He commended the role of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other government bodies for promptly addressing this emergency situation.

Following the interactive session, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG ISSI, presented ISSI’s memento to the Chief Guest.





## In House Meeting with Ms. Angela Aggeler, US Charge D’Affaires

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI held an In-House virtual meeting with Ms. Angela Aggeler, Charge d’ Affaires at the US Embassy in Islamabad on April 1, 2021. The meeting was attended by members of the CSP team and moderated by the Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique. The meeting was held to introduce the newly established Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) and the research areas being covered by its team members.

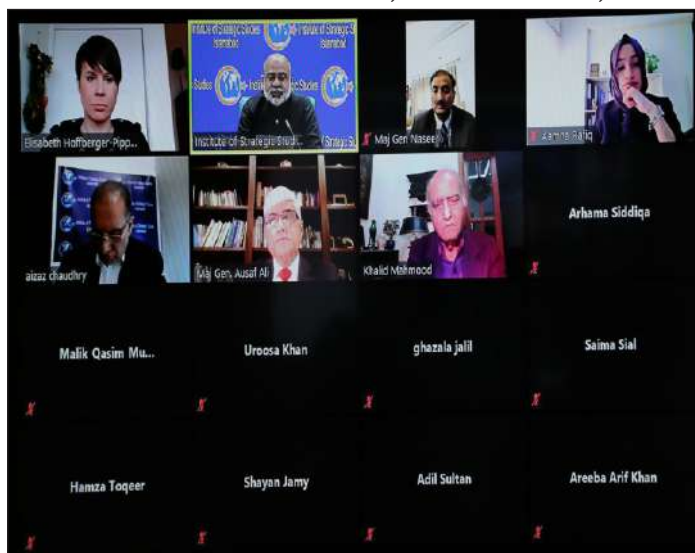
Director, CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique expressed his desire to expand CSP collaboration with think tanks and experts in the US in the relevant research areas being covered by the Centre. Ms. Aggeler congratulated Mr. Rafique on the work being undertaken by CSP and assured that the US Embassy in Pakistan will extend all possible cooperation in putting the Centre in touch with the relevant institutions and people in the US.



## Webinar on “Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) and State Behaviour: Global and Regional Implications”

The Arms Control and Disarmament Centre (ACDC) at ISSI hosted a webinar on “*Lethal Autonomous Weapons Systems (LAWS) and State Behaviour: Global and Regional Implications*” on April 7, 2021. The webinar was moderated by Mr. Malik Qasim Mustafa, Director, ACDC. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI delivered welcome remarks while Ms. Aamna Rafiq, RA, ACDC provided a comprehensive analysis of the ongoing debate on LAWS and issues in the CCW.

Dr. Elisabeth Hoffberger-Pipan, Post-Doctoral Associate, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, Berlin and Major General (Retd) Ausaf Ali, Advisor, Strategic Plans Division (SPD), Pakistan presented their respective remarks on the subject. The presentations were followed by an interactive session in which national and international experts together with the ISSI research faculty actively participated. The webinar ended with the concluding remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI.



## In House Meeting with the US State Department South and Central Asia Bureau: Pakistan Desk

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI held a virtual meeting with the members of the US State Department South and Central Asia Bureau, Pakistan Desk on April 28, 2021. The members of the bureau included the Deputy Directors of the Pakistan desk, Mr. Tom Rosenberger, Ms. Courtenay Dunn and Mr. Brandon Thompson. The meeting was attended by members of the CSP Team and moderated by the Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique. The meeting was held to introduce the newly established Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI, and discuss issues of mutual concern.

The members of the bureau assured that they would extend all possible cooperation to CSP with regards to helping in establishing collaboration with relevant think tanks, academics and officials in the United States on issues of mutual concern.





## Launch of the book titled “Higher than Karakoram: Seven Decades of Pakistan-China Relations”

The China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at ISSI launched its second edited book titled “*Higher than Karakoram: Seven Decades of Pakistan-China Partnership*” on May 20, 2021. Mr. Sohail Mahmood, Foreign Secretary of Pakistan was the Chief Guest at the event, while, H.E. Mr. Nong Rong, Ambassador of People’s Republic of China was Guest of Honor. Other dignitaries and discussants included Mr. Moin ul Haque, Ambassador of Pakistan to China, Ambassador Naghmana Hashmi, Ambassador Masood Khalid, Dr. Fazal ur Rehman, Director Pakistan Institute of China Studies, University of Sargodha, Dr. Di Yuna, Executive Director, Pakistan Study Center of Science & Technology and Economy, and Dr. Li Jingfeng, Director Regional & Strategic Research Office, Sichuan Academy of Social Sciences.



Introductory remarks at the event were given by Dr. Talat Shabbir, Director, CPSC while welcome remarks were presented by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI. At the conclusion of the event, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG, ISSI presented the Institute’s memento to the distinguished guests.

## Panel Discussion on “Palestine Under Siege”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Panel Discussion titled, “*Palestine Under Siege*” on May 21, 2021. The distinguished panel of experts included: Mr. Nader Alturk, Deputy Head of Mission/ Counselor at the Palestinian Embassy in Pakistan; Dr. Mohammad Makram Balawi, Palestinian writer and President of Asia Middle East Forum; Ambassador Javid Hafeez, Former Pakistani Diplomat; Dr. Daud Abdullah, Director, MEMO; Mr. Muhammad Oves Anwar, Director Research, RSIL; Dr. Nazir Hussain, Former Dean, SPIR, QAU; Dr. Bilal Ahmed, Director General (Middle East) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Pakistan; and Mr. Haitham Naser, Palestinian Journalist based in Islamabad, correspondent of TRT Arabic.

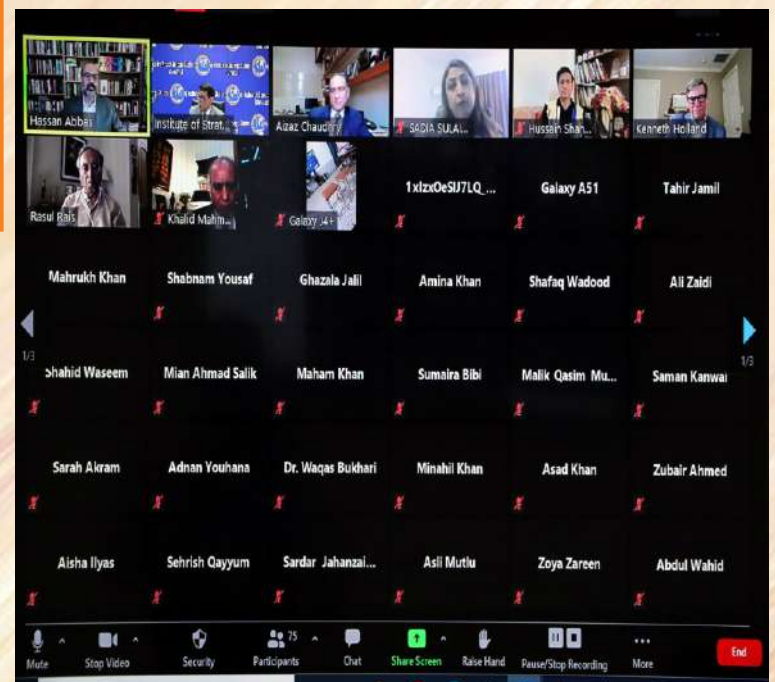
The keynote address was given by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG ISSI while introductory remarks were delivered by Ms. Amina Khan, Director, CAMEA. Ms. Arhama Siddiq, RF, CAMEA gave a brief overview of the present situation. Panellists’ remarks were followed by an interactive session.



## Panel Discussion on “Biden Administration: Options & Challenges for Pakistan-US Relations”

Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI, in collaboration with the Area Study Centre for Africa, North & South America, at the Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad organized a virtual Panel Discussion on “*Biden Administration: Options & Challenges for Pakistan-US Relations*”.

The panelists included Dr. Hassan Abbas, Professor, NDU, Washington D.C.; Dr. Kenneth Holland, former President, American University of Afghanistan; Dr. Rasul Bakhsh Rais, Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, LUMS; and Dr. Hussain Shaheed Soherwordi, Associate Professor, University of Peshawar. The discussion was moderated by Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique while welcome remarks were delivered by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI.





## XVI Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Forum

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI hosted the sixteenth session of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Forum on May 25, 2021. The Forum included participants from SCO member states including India; Kazakhstan; China; Kyrgyzstan; Russia; Tajikistan; and Uzbekistan.

Welcome remarks at the forum were presented by Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI. Ms. Aisha Farooqui, National Coordinator SCO, Pakistan and the Secretary General SCO, Mr. V.I. Norov also delivered their remarks during the opening session of the event. The opening session was followed by welcome remarks by the heads of delegation from each member state. The forum comprised of two working sessions. Session 1 was titled “SCO and Geopolitics of Eurasia: Prospects of Security Cooperation between Member States” while session 2 was titled “Boosting Socio-Economic among SCO Member States” respectively.



## Introductory Virtual Meeting with Executive Heads of CAIR, Azerbaijan

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI held an introductory virtual meeting with Dr. Farid Shafiyev, Chairman, Center of Analysis of International Relations (CAIR), Baku, Azerbaijan on April 6, 2021.

DG ISSI, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry briefed the members of CAIR on the work being done by ISSI and its five centres of excellence. Introducing CAIR, Dr. Farid Shafiyev said that it is a very young Centre affiliated with the government and covers issues of national, regional and global concern.

Briefing CAIR on the global and regional issues, DG ISSI spoke about the new emerging world order in the post-Cold War era and intensifying major power competition, Washington’s “Contain China” policy, and QUAD. He briefed CAIR on Pakistan’s relations with its neighbours, the Muslim World and peace in Afghanistan. Chairman CAIR spoke about Azerbaijan’s presidency of the Non-Alignment Movement and concerns over the distribution of COVID-19 vaccine. He thanked Pakistan for its principled stance on Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. DG ISSI thanked Azerbaijan for its support to Pakistan on the issue of Kashmir.



## CSP's virtual meeting with the Institute for Peace Studies & Conflict Management, Vienna

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI held a virtual meeting with a Vienna-based think tank, the Institute for Peace Studies & Conflict Management, on June 9, 2021.

The meeting was attended by Director General ISSI, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Chairman BOG ISSI, Ambassador Khalid Mahmood and members of the CSP team. The meeting was moderated by Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique. The purpose of the meeting was to introduce the two research organizations and to reach an understanding on extending research and events collaboration between ISSI and the Institute for Peace Support & Conflict Management. Pakistan’s Ambassador to Vienna, Mr. Aftab Ahmad Khokhar was also in attendance and delivered the opening remarks.







### Meeting between DG ISSI and Executive Head of Japan Institute of International Affairs

The Centre for Strategic Perspectives (CSP) at ISSI held a virtual meeting with the Executive Head of Japan Institute of International Affairs on May 24, 2021. The meeting was attended by Director General Institute of Strategic Studies, Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, members of the CSP Team and moderated by the Director CSP, Mr. Najam Rafique. The meeting was held to extend collaboration between the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad and the Japan Institute of International Affairs.

The Director General JIIA, Ms. Tomiko Ichikawa was given an introductory presentation about the working of ISSI and briefed about the functions and scope of the Institute. Director General JIIA, Ms. Ichikawa welcomed the proposals suggested by the DG ISSI and expressed her desire to extend cooperation in different realms. The introductory meeting ended with the agreement to pursue bilateral discussions in areas of common interest.



### Virtual Meeting with Institute of Strategic and International Studies (ISIS)

The China-Pakistan Study Centre (CPSC) at ISSI held an introductory virtual meeting with Institute of Strategic and International (ISIS), Malaysia delegation led by Mr. Herizal Hazri, Chief Executive Officer on May 10, 2021. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director-General ISSI led the ISSI delegation. Meanwhile, Ambassador Anna Baloch, Pakistan’s High Commissioner to Malaysia also joined the meeting.

During the meeting, heads of both institutes introduced their respective research organisations, exchanged views on evolving global developments, peace and security in Asia, and Pakistan-Malaysia bilateral relations. As leading national research institutes, both sides identified areas of mutual collaboration for policy research and dialogue based on shared interests.



### Webinar on “Cyber Technologies and Responsible State Behaviour: Achieving Peace, Security and Sustainable Development”

The Arms Control and Disarmament Centre (ACDC) at the ISSI organised a Webinar on “Cyber Technologies and Responsible State Behaviour: Achieving Peace, Security and Sustainable Development” on June 29, 2021. The eminent speakers included Brig. Mohammad Yasin, Senior Advisor SDPI; Dr. Tughral Yamin, Associate Dean CIPS, NUST; and Dr. Khashif Kifayat, Dean Computer Sciences, Air University Islamabad.

Introductory remarks were given by Mr. Malik Qasim Mustafa, Director, ACDC while Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI delivered the welcome remarks. Ms. Aamna Rafiq, RA, ACDC presented a briefing, identifying new ways to unlock the full potential of cyber technologies for human development.

The webinar's working session was followed by an interesting question and answer session. The event ended with the concluding remarks by Ambassador Khalid Mahmood, Chairman BOG ISSI.





## Panel Discussion on “Conversations on the Afghan Peace Process: Turkey’s Role in Afghanistan”

The Centre for Afghanistan, Middle East & Africa (CAMEA) at ISSI had a Panel Discussion on “Conversations on the Afghan Peace Process: Turkey’s Role in Afghanistan” which is the first in a series of conversations planned by CAMEA on Afghanistan – under its Conversations on the Afghan Peace Process series.

The distinguished speakers included: Amb. Haroon Shaukat; Dr. Merve Seren; Dr. Zalmay Nishat; Dr. Salim Cevik; and Dr. Murat Aslan. Ambassador Aizaz Ahmad Chaudhry, Director General, ISSI also took part in the discussion. Opening remarks at the beginning were delivered by Ms. Amina Khan, Director, CAMEA. Mr. Muhammad Yaseen, Research Associate, CAMEA gave a brief presentation on Turkey’s role in Afghanistan.



## ISSI’s Latest Publications

Quarterly Journal




Islamabad Papers

### ISSUE BRIEFS April-June 2021

- “The Next Frontier: Human Development and the Anthropocene” By Ms. Sarah Akram
- “India’s Purchase of S-400 Systems and Indo-US Diplomatic Crisis” By Ms. Ghazala Yasmin Jalil
- “Biden Administration’s Interim National Security Strategic Guidance Report: The Essence” By Ms. Mahrukh Khan
- “CPEC and Food Security Cooperation” By Mr. Ali Haider Saleem
- “Agitation in Bangladesh on Modi’s visit” By Mr. Dost Muhammad Barrech
- “From Democracy to Autocracy: India’s Deteriorating Record of Human Rights” By Ms. Mahwish Hafeez
- Issue Brief on “China – Iran Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: Prospects for Pakistan” By Ms. Arhama Siddiqua
- “Pakistan’s Struggle against Air Pollution” By Mr. Mian Ahmad Naeem Salik
- “African Continental Free Trade Area: Harbinger for Trade” By Ms. Areeba Arif
- “Lavrov’s Visit: Taking Pakistan-Russian Bilateral Relations to New Heights” By Mr. Muhammad Taimur Fahad Khan
- “Currency Manipulators: India on US Treasury Currency Monitoring List Once Again” By Mr. Mian Ahmad Naeem Salik
- “Cyber security under the Biden Administration: Issues and Way Forward” By Ms. Aamna Rafiq
- “US Human Rights Report – 2020: An Appraisal and Key

### ISSUE BRIEFS April-June 2021

- Takeaways” By Ms. Mahrukh Khan
- “Pakistan’s Nuclear Energy Outlook” By Ms. Ghazala Yasmin Jalil
- “Rising World Military Spending in the Age of Pandemic: An Overview” By Mr. Malik Qasim Mustafa
- “China’s Success in Poverty Eradication: An Appraisal” By Ms. Neelum Nigar
- “World Leaders Summit on Climate: A Step in the Right Direction” By Ms. Ume Farwa
- “China-Iran Strategic Cooperation Agreement: Cautious Evolution of Bilateral Relations” By Mr. Muhammad Faisal
- “Rohingya Refugees in India: No Place to Call Home” By Ms. Mahwish Hafeez
- “The Curious Case of Silicon Values in India: Social Media Regulations Gone Awry” By Ms. Misbah Mukhtar
- “Hurling Towards a Point of No Return: Palestine Under Siege” By Ms. Arhama Siddiqua
- “The Myth of India’s Impeccable Non-Proliferation Record” By Ms. Ghazala Yasmin Jalil
- “BJP’s Defeat in West Bengal” By Ms. Misbah Mukhtar
- “The EU and India Plan a Global Infrastructure Deal: An Appraisal” By Mr. Dost Muhammad Barrech
- “Covid-19 and the Plight of the Kashmiri Freedom Leaders” By Mr. Muhammad Ali Baig
- “Pakistan-Saudi Relations: Recent Developments” By Ms. Arhama Siddiqua
- “Pakistan Stream Gas Pipeline: Finally a Done Deal” By Mr. Muhammad Taimur Fahad Khan
- “Covid-19 Catastrophe in India: An Unfolding Tragedy” By Ms. Mahwish Hafeez
- “Indus Bond: Pakistan’s First Green Eurobond” By Mr. Ahmad Naeem Salik
- “China’s Afghan Policy Post US Withdrawal” By Mr. Mir Sherbaz Khetran
- “European Parliament and the Review of Pakistan’s GSP+ Status: An Appraisal” By Mr. Muhammad Taimur Fahad Khan

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