



Taliban's Battle Against Islamic State Khorasan

Abdul Sayed | 30 Aug 2022

“Taliban needs to win the support of the Afghan public and collaborate with regional governments and the international community to eradicate the ISK threat.”

Read More: <https://inkstickmedia.com/the-talibans-battle-against-islamic-state-khorasan/>

Al-Qaeda, the Taliban, and the Future of U.S. Counterterrorism in Afghanistan

Asfandiyar Mir | 08 Sept 2022

“Al-Qaeda’s leadership likely understands that to offset those parts of the Taliban that are wary of associating with a global terrorist movement, they must retain the support of key power centers within the movement.”

Read More: <https://extremism.gwu.edu/al-qaeda-the-taliban-us-counterterrorism-in-afghanistan>

Dysfunctional Centralization and Growing Fragility Under Taliban Rule

Sayed Madadi | 06 Sept 2022

“The regime is also facing difficulties integrating key battlefield leaders into its new official structures in an appropriate way, as the appointment of Qayum Zaker to an arbitrary assignment managing the resistance in Panjshir illustrates.”

Read More: <https://www.mei.edu/publications/dysfunctional-centralization-and-growing-fragility-under-taliban-rule>

How The UAE’s Support to Haqqani Network is Undermining Stability in Afghanistan

Asmahan Qarjouli | 02 Sept 2022

“Another important angle in the UAE’s attempts to increase its influence in Afghanistan is its attempts to cosy up to China, which has strong connections with the Taliban.”

Read More: <https://dohanews.co/how-the-uaes-support-to-haqqani-network-is-undermining-stability-in-afghanistan/>

TTP-Pakistan Peace Talks: The Pitfalls and their Implications

Rhea Sinha | 18 Aug 2022

“These negotiations, set a dangerous precedent as it could encourage transnational terrorist outfits to create pressure on other regional actors to gain concessions while giving the Afghan Taliban leverage.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/ttp-pakistan-peace-talks/>

Civil-Military Relations: Is the Internal Power Dynamics Being Redefined?

Dr Shalini Chawla | 03 Sept 2022

“The military’s experiment with Imran Khan has clearly backfired, and there is strong anti-establishment sentiment dominating the public opinion in the country.”

Read More: <https://resonantnews.com/2022/09/03/civil-military-relations-is-the-internal-power-dynamics-being-redefined/>

The Unfulfilled Promises of Independent Pakistan

Sajjad Ashraf | 06 Sept 2022

“Unless resolute action is taken now, there is every chance that Pakistan will fall back into crisis sooner rather than later. International stakeholders can only do so much — the task of reform rests with the ruling elite.”

Read More: <https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2022/09/06/the-unfulfilled-promises-of-independent-pakistan/>

Framing Identity within Pakistan’s Foreign Policy

Farhan Hanif Siddiqi | 29 Aug 2022

“Religion and religious differentiation at the time of Partition continue to inform aspects of Pakistan’s foreign policy, albeit selectively.”

Read More: <https://southasianvoices.org/framing-identity-within-pakistans-foreign-policy/>

Hanging by a Thread

Tariq Khosa | 17 Sept 2022

“By alleging that PDM coalition are “sitting in the government because they want to bring in an army chief of their choice”, he revealed his desire to select an army chief under his watch, hence the need for elections before November this year.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1710547>

China’s Emergent Footprints in West Asia

Kabir Taneja | 06 Sept 2022

“Beijing has been careful in building its influence in what is a politically volatile geography, carefully managing the regional fault lines and remaining distant from getting embroiled in local geopolitics.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/chinas-emergent-footprints-in-west-asia/>

Russia-Iran Axis Grows as Both Countries Bask in Western Concern - Analysis

Seth J. Frantzman | 28 Aug 2022

“Iran and Russia are forging tighter ties than ever, as their international isolation drives the two staunch American foes toward more trade and military cooperation, alarming Washington.”

Read More: <https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-715765>

The Arab Gulf’s Outreach to Iran Amidst a Flailing Nuclear Deal

Kabir Taneja | 24 Aug 2022

“There is little denying that, tactically, Tehran has largely succeeded in achieving its geopolitical goals in the region, having a strong presence in Syria; backing the Houthi militias in Yemen; supporting Hezbollah in Lebanon, and so on.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/iran-amidst-a-flailing-nuclear-deal/>

Washington Wins as Turkey and Israel Restore Normal Ties

Brenda Shaffer | 23 Aug 2022

“Stakes for security in the region are incredibly high, given the Russian invasion of Ukraine, increasing Iranian-sponsored terrorism, as well as potential regional instability due to economic challenges.”

Read More: <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/turkeysource/washington-wins-as-turkey-and-israel-restore-normal-ties/>

Islamic State Khorasan’s Expanded Vision in South and Central Asia

Lucas Webber and Riccardo Valle | 26 Aug 2022

“ISKP presents itself as a vehicle to smash the arbitrarily drawn Central Asian state borders and topple the region’s “tyrants” to ultimately raise the black flag and establish an adjacent IS province of Transoxiana.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2022/08/islamic-state-khorasans-expanded-vision-in-south-and-central-asia/>

Turkish Private Military Companies Are Learning From Russia

Alessandro Arduino | 03 Sept 2022

“Russia pioneered the use of mercenaries as a valuable tool in pursuing its foreign policy aims. Turkey is following closely the Russian playbook, fine-tuning such tactics to suit its own purposes.”

Read More: <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/turkish-private-military-companies-are-learning-russia-204574?page=0%2C1>

Dragon Shadow in Central Himalaya: is China Trying to Open a New Front Against India?

Claude Arpi | 06 Sept 2022

“China is preparing the ground for creating problems for India in the central sector as Beijing’s options are very limited in the northern and eastern sectors of the boundary.”

Read More: <https://www.firstpost.com/opinion-news-expert-views-news-analysis-firstpost-viewpoint/dragon-shadow-in-central-himalaya-is-china-trying-to-open-a-new-front-against-india-11192861.html>

From Revolutionaries to Visionless Parties: Leftist Politics in Bangladesh

Tahmina Rahman | 06 Sept 2022

“Although not monolithic in terms of nature and ideology, leftist parties in Bangladesh share institutional and ideological constraints that curtail their abilities to emerge as dominant political actors.”

Read More: <https://carnegieendowment.org/2022/09/06/from-revolutionaries-to-visionless-parties-leftist-politics-in-bangladesh-pub-87806>

REGION IN PICTURES

Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif along with a high level delegation embarked upon a two-day official visit to Qatar..



Pic Credits: - Dawn /PID website

Violence erupted in Iraq following announcement of Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's resignation from politics after which supporters of the cleric stormed the government palace .



Pic AHMED JALIL/SHUTTERSTOCK

22nd annual summit of heads of state of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation was held on 15 and 16 September 2022 in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.



Pic Credits: SCO secretariat

Intense Fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan broke out in September killing over 200 soldiers on either side. At the core of the dispute is the region of Nagorno-Karabakh.



Pic Credits: Armenian Defence Ministry via AP



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The views expressed in this brief are those of the author and not necessarily of the Centre or any other organisation.