



Dollars Deployed: How the Weaponization of the U.S. Financial System Contributed to Afghanistan's Collapse

Timor Sharan | 31 August 2023

“The collapse of the Afghan government to the Taliban and subsequent U.S. military withdrawal from Afghanistan in August 2021 marked the failure of two decades of fighting to root out terrorism and stabilize the country. In the aftermath of that disaster, the United States was quick to blame corrupt Afghan politicians for the Taliban’s return to power.”

Read More: <https://www.justsecurity.org/87759/dollars-deployed-how-the-weaponization-of-the-u-s-financial-system-contributed-to-afghanistans-collapse/>

Can the Taliban Contain Islamic State in Afghanistan?

Nadeem Ahmed Moonakal | 1 September 2023

“Ever since the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan, Islamic State affiliates have increased attacks in the country in a bid to delegitimise the new rulers. The attacks by the Islamic State-Khorasan Province (variously labelled ISK, ISKP, or ISIS-K) underscore the fragile security situation within Afghanistan and the risks for proliferation into the region.”

Read More: https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/can-taliban-contain-islamic-state-afghanistan?fbclid=PAAbOGJnXCmc7HK0b4A11nDSqLNM_eILMc6Zwv2Sq6ubtBZlGaDnuS56qFiU_aem_AYkRWpOdxpQmBq3pQva6nkSwd1cdM_JYz5Hd7N7nGMgiP74x5LMvS03z-m5Bh6TFMw8

Has Afghanistan Turned into a Sanctuary for Jihadist Groups?

Abdul Basit | 3 September 2023

“The Taliban’s ability to gain full physical control of Afghanistan underscores the fact that no group can operate from Afghanistan without their approval or support. Hence, the Taliban’s complex relations with different militant groups are an important vector in understanding how the jihadist challenge is evolving in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/09/has-afghanistan-turned-into-a-sanctuary-for-jihadist-groups/>

ISKP Goes Global: External Operations from Afghanistan

Aaron Y. Zelin | 11 September 2023

“Two decades after the 9/11 attacks, Taliban-ruled Afghanistan is once again becoming a haven for terrorist activities abroad—but this time by a local Islamic State branch.”

Read More: <https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/iskp-goes-global-external-operations-afghanistan>

US Weapons in Afghanistan: Factsheet and Assessment

Radhey Tambi | 14 September 2023

“The disarrayed nature of the US withdrawal resulted in the abandonment of a significant number of weapons. According to the U.S. Department of Defense, the U.S. left behind weapons worth \$ 7.2 billion when it pulled out of Afghanistan. Many of these weapons today are being restored by the Taliban, and are also flowing into the hands of different organisations.”

Read More: https://capsindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/CAPS_IB_RT_NIS_14_9_23.pdf

Growing Threat of ISKP in Afghanistan

Priyadarshini Baruah | 15 September 2023

“The Taliban’s restoration to power in Afghanistan in 2021 worsened the security situation in the region, giving ISKP the flexibility to take advantage of the shaky power transition to further its objectives and enlist new recruits. Due to the Taliban and ISKP’s opposing ideologies and objectives, the potential for violent conflicts in Afghanistan and its neighbouring nations has grown.”

Read More: https://capsindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/CAPS_IB_PB_15_9_23.pdf

Hobson’s Choice for India in Taliban-Held Afghanistan

Shanthie Mariet D’Souza | 19 September 2023

“When the question of engaging with the Taliban arises, New Delhi favours a cautious middle path.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/09/hobsons-choice-for-india-in-taliban-held-afghanistan/>

Why Pakistan Lost Out at the G20

Salvatore Babones | 10 September 2023

“On the G20 sidelines, Saturday’s announcement of an India-Middle East-Europe economic corridor involving India, the UAE, Saudi Arabia, the European Union, and the United States is a clear political response to the failed China-Pakistan Economic Corridor — and a clear political win for India.”

Read More: <https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/trends/current-affairs/why-pakistan-lost-out-at-the-g20-11343051.html>

Crisis in Pakistan Continue to Strengthen the Military

Shalini Chawla | 16 September 2023

“Crises are not new for any state, but what distinctly surfaces in Pakistan’s economic, political, and security challenges is that the crises have further strengthened the military, which has actually been a critical contributor to Pakistan’s perpetual bedlam.”

Read More: <https://capsindia.org/crises-in-pakistan-continue-to-strengthen-the-military/>

Pakistan's Other Crisis

Maleeha Lodhi | 18 September 2023

“Pakistan’s macroeconomics crisis, the most serious in its history, continues to warrant urgent and sustained attention.”

Read More: <https://www.dawn.com/news/1776498/pakistans-other-crisis>

Bangladesh in G20 Summit: Unlocking New Doors?

Kazi Asszad Hossan | 7 September 2023

“As India seeks to shape a global agenda through the G20, securing Bangladesh’s support is essential for enhancing India’s influence in its neighbourhood.”

Read More: <https://www.tbsnews.net/thoughts/bangladesh-g20-summit-unlocking-new-doors-697098>

China in South Asia: Nepal's Relations with China Amid a Sensitive Geopolitical Environment

Gaurab Shumsher Thapa | 5 September 2023

“While Nepal should attempt to push China towards living up to its promises, it must also play a balancing act with two of China’s rivals, India and the United States.”

Read More: <https://southasianvoices.org/china-in-south-asia-nepals-relations-with-china-amid-a-sensitive-geopolitical-environment/>

'It Works Like a Balm': How Cricket Unifies Sri Lanka in Times of Crisis

Hafsa Adil | 18 September 2023

“Cricket has been a unifying force and provided respite amid civil war and political and economic crisis in Sri Lanka.”

Read More: <https://www.aljazeera.com/sports/2023/9/18/how-cricket-unifies-sri-lanka-economic-crisis-civil-war>

Decoding Crucial Trends from the Maldives' Presidential Elections

Aditya Gowdara Shivamurthy | 16 September 2023

“As Maldives heads to the second round of elections, uncertainty looms large for the island nation.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/decoding-crucial-trends-from-the-maldives-presidential-elections/>

Seizure, Swagger and Sea Denial: Iran and the Strait of Hormuz

B. Poornima | 10 September 2023

“The Strait of Hormuz situated in the Persian Gulf holds tremendous significance for the global energy supply chains. Iran’s naval forces have recently been engaging in harassing and seizing commercial and military vessels traversing through the region. The situation is escalating fast as the USA and its allies are increasing their military build-up in the Gulf.”

Read More: <https://www.stratechos.com/pns/Seizure%2C-Swagger-and-Sea-Denial%3A-Iran-and-the-Strait-of-Hormuz>

Central Asian Connectivity is Crucial to America’s Strategic Interests

Ibrahim Mammadov | 30 August 2023

“Long underrecognized, the Central Asia region, along with the nearby South Caucasus, is ... is filled with rich reserves of energy and natural resources, plays host to numerous key trade routes, and occupies a strategic geopolitical real estate between most of the great powers of the world.”

Read More: <https://nationalinterest.org/feature/central-asian-connectivity-crucial-america’s-strategic-interests-206753>

New Uzbekistan’s Reform Agenda: A Catalyst for Stronger US Bilateral Relations

Ambassador Furqat Sidikov | 6 September 2023

“As the United States elevates its presence and strategic partnerships in key arenas of the world such as Central Asia, it’s imperative for U.S. policymakers and the court of public opinion to look to Uzbekistan as a bedrock partner in the region.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/09/new-uzbekistans-reform-agenda-a-catalyst-for-stronger-us-bilateral-relations/>

A Journey Through Central Asia’s Shifting Geopolitical Landscape

Peter Krasnopolsky | 8 September 2023

“As Russia’s position wanes in Central Asia, and China’s waxes, if American interests are to be maintained, Washington has to find ways to tap into the region’s potential.”

Read More: <https://thediplomat.com/2023/09/a-journey-through-central-asias-shifting-geopolitical-landscape/>

Evolving Security Landscape: Central Asia's Terrorist Networks and Their Transnational Impact

Anadi | 13 September 2023

“Terror groups in the Central Asian region have the potential to cause a spillover effect throughout the area due to several interconnected factors. For instance, these terror groups engage in radicalization and recruitment efforts, drawing foreign fighters from neighbouring countries who might later return home with new skills and motivations, posing a security threat.”

Read More: <https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/gcc-and-central-asia-summit-amidst-great-power-competition/>

Iraq and Kuwait Should Get to the Bottom of their Border Dispute

Yerevan Saeed | 2 September 2023

“The implications of these developments for regional stability are noteworthy, as they could bear on the future geopolitical landscape. In light of these complex dynamics, resolving the maritime border dispute takes on heightened importance, underscoring the urgency for both countries to find a constructive and lasting solution.”

Read More: <https://nationalinterest.org/blog/silk-road-rivalries/iraq-and-kuwait-should-get-bottom-their-border-dispute-206761>

REGION IN PICTURES

Bangladesh inked a deal with France for the purchase of 10 Airbus aircraft worth USD 3.2 billion and a letter of intent was exchanged for an earth observation satellite system as French President Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina held wide-ranging talks to boost bilateral ties.



Pic Credits: - The Indian Express

Russian President Vladimir Putin hosted a meeting with the Belarusian ally, President Alexander Lukashenko, who suggested that Minsk could join Moscow's efforts to revive an old alliance with Pyongyang after this week's summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un.



Pic Credit: AP News

British Foreign Secretary James Cleverly condemned Iranian-backed terror against Israel and pledged his support for a two-state resolution to the Palestinian conflict as he opened a three-day visit to Jerusalem and Ramallah.



Pic Credits: The Jerusalem Post

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan asked tech billionaire Elon Musk to build a Tesla electric vehicle factory in Turkey, according to Erdoğan's office.



Pic Credits: Politico



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