

### **Pakistan's Position on the Recent Conflict with India: Maintaining Balance and US Engagement**

**Pakistan seeks peace, de-escalation and regional stability.** We worry that Prime Minister Modi has said India has only “paused” its military action and attacks on Pakistan could resume.

- Prime Minister Modi’s speech on a “new normal” of Indian attacks on Pakistan is a very dangerous and unacceptable concept, especially between nuclear powers.
- If attacked again, Pakistan will again defend its people and territory in line with Article 51 of the UN Charter, including by reestablishing deterrence.

**Pakistan appreciates the constructive role played by President Trump** and his Administration, as well as other friendly states, in supporting the ceasefire of May 11, after India launched military attacks on Pakistan beginning May 6. Indian strikes targeted homes, civic infrastructure, and places of worship resulting in the deaths of 40 civilians – among them 7 women and 15 children.

**Attempts to frame this recent conflict in the context of India-China tensions are a deliberate, deceptive effort to appeal to U.S.-China strategic competition,** ignoring regional realities and India’s long record of illegal actions and aggression against Pakistan.

Having demonstrated its unique ability to avert all-out war, **the United States should remain engaged to help India and Pakistan reach verifiable agreements.** Pakistan would welcome a U.S. mediating role.

**Pakistan calls for an independent, impartial investigation** of the attack in Pahalgam on April 22. U.S. facilitation of this would be welcome. **Pakistan had no connection to and no benefit from the incident.**

**Pakistan wants dialogue with India on counterterrorism, the Indus Water Treaty and all issues that divide the two countries.** Stronger regional counterterrorism cooperation should include the United States.

- Given how unproductive talks have been in the past, Pakistan believes a third-party facilitator could help both countries come to verifiable agreements.
- India’s role in supporting terrorism in Pakistan needs to be among the issues addressed in these talks. India assists the Baloch Liberation Army (BLA), which took 182 hostages from a train in March 2025 and claimed responsibility for 71 attacks in Pakistan in the first half of May 2025, killing in total over 130 Pakistanis.
- Consistent with India’s support for terrorism in Pakistan, India’s record of assassinations in third countries was established by the governments of the United States and Canada. These governments separately charged or accused Indian government-linked individuals of plotting and carrying out assassinations on their territories in 2024 and 2023, respectively.
- Pakistan also faces terrorist threats from the Pakistani Taliban. The 2025 U.S. DNI Annual Threat Assessment cited the Pakistani Taliban as a potential threat to the United States.

**Pakistan appreciates President Trump’s expressed willingness to support efforts aimed at the resolution of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute** -- a longstanding issue that has serious implications for peace and security in South Asia and beyond. Pakistan reaffirms that any just and lasting settlement of the Jammu and Kashmir dispute must be in accordance with the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and must ensure the realization of the fundamental rights of the Kashmiri people, including their inalienable right to self-determination.

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