

ROUNDTABLE CONFERENCE REPORT

Role of Diplomacy in Maintaining International Peace and Security



Centre for International Peace and Stability (CIPS)

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About CIPS

The Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS) was established on 1st March 2013. Inaugurated by UNSG Ban Ki-moon, CIPS was established with the purpose of conducting research and training in matter related to UN Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKOs). Its mandate, however, is not restricted to the relatively narrow field of peacekeeping. The studies at CIPS are organized within the overarching discipline of Peace & Conflict Studies (PCS) while offering academic programs at both post-graduate and doctoral level. The Department welcomes research collaboration, joint research programmes, and exchange between individuals and institutes that are concerned with attaining positive peace in the society.

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About HSF

The Hanns Seidel Foundation, established in 1967 in Germany, is one of the German political foundations, supporting political dialogue and education programmes worldwide by mandate of the German Federal Parliament (Bundestag). With activities in more than 60 countries, the foundation is an important stakeholder in the German development cooperation. The Pakistan office was established in 1983, ever since cooperating with a huge number of academic and government institutions all over the country in the service of democracy, peace and development.

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Preface

This publication is a report of the 2016 Roundtable Conference organized on the topic of “Role of Diplomacy in Maintaining International Peace and Security” by the Centre for Peace and Stability (CIPS), National University of Science & Technology (NUST) in collaboration with Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) on 5th October, 2016. This conference provided an opportunity for policy makers, senior scholars and researchers to share their ideas on the importance of diplomacy in peaceful resolution of complex conflict issues.



In view of the above highlighted themes, during most of the twentieth century, the two World Wars, the Cold War, and military confrontation have indeed made diplomacy a subsidiary instrument of power politics and ideology. As a result, diplomacy has very often executed the ‘dance of death’. In addition, it is evident that, the end of the Cold War has radically changed the international political scene. Today we are facing the shift of the civilizational paradigm, which affects not only the major units of world polities—i.e., the states—but also brings new actors into the forefront of international relations.

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The conference addressed different issues regarding international peace-making and conflict. It specifically followed three-highlighted themes:

1. *Pre Conflict*: understanding the preventative role of diplomacy in conflict prevention and aversion.

2. *The Conflict*: understanding the manifestation of conflicts and distinctive role played by different management and mitigation techniques.
3. *Post Conflict*: understanding the significance of conflict resolution and related steps with regards to post conflict rehabilitation and monitoring.

The roundtable conference hosted Mr. Mubeen Mehr, Director (Research), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), Pakistan as the Chief Guest on the occasion. A great number of esteemed policy makers and researchers, senior and veteran diplomats including Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi, Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel, Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen, Ambassador Zamir Akram, attended the event along with the CIPS faculty members, MS and PhD students of the Centre. Consistent with its title, the roundtable initiated a process of deliberation where every voice was heard and valued. This report records a collaborative investigation into the meaning and strategies of diplomacy and how it can be used at every stage of a conflict to maintain peace and stability in the national and international arenas.

Foreword by Associate Dean, Centre for International Peace & Stability (CIPS)

Dr. Tughral Yamin, Associate Dean CIPS, National University of Sciences and Technology (NUST) welcomed the participants of the round table. Highlighting the importance of the subject—“Role of Diplomacy in Maintaining International Peace and Security”—he mentioned that the role of diplomats in maintaining peace and stability among nations is pivotal. The quickly changing international political and legal situations call for a more detailed analysis into the actual role of diplomacy and how and when it should be used. Diplomacy, he emphasized, is essential and inevitable for peace and stability around the world.



He acknowledged that the United Nations Security Council and other international organizations play a vital role in this respect by analyzing the situations and calling together nations to resolve conflicts before they occur, when it occurs or after it ends. The importance of good diplomatic

“The World Wars and several other conflicts have led to millions of people dying and several more compromising on the way that they live.”

Dr. Tughral Yamin

relations, he explained, can never be overemphasized. The World Wars and several other conflicts have led to millions of people dying and several more compromising on the way that they live. Dr. Yamin further drew attention to the Kashmir issue and also over the internal terrorism concerns being faced by Pakistan.

He concluded that only a deep analysis of the history of conflicts and their resolutions can provide an idea of how to act, react and/or not to act. In addition, there is a greater need to share knowledge with each other through different platforms in order to broaden the understanding of conflict resolution and management through diplomacy.

Opening Remarks by the Head of Department (Peace and Conflict Studies - CIPS)

Dr. Mumtaz Zia Saleem of CIPS warmly welcomed the participants of the roundtable discussion and thanked them for their participation in the session. He also thanked the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) for their collaboration in organizing the event.

He stated that the objective of the conference was to examine the crucial place and role of diplomacy in conflicts. The conference, he informed the audience, would combine presentations of papers from experts and practitioners. Particularly, the presence of both former and current



“Pakistan needs to evolve a strong diplomacy in resolution of conflict in this region, especially with arch-rival India.”

Dr. Mumtaz Zia Saleem

would be a great source of information aimed to have positive impacts on the national and international diplomatic relations. He concluded that international peace could be achieved with best results through dialogue and meaningful diplomacy.

diplomat at the forum was highly appreciated as they can offer rich experiences that had gained during their different foreign placements around the world. He further added that Pakistan needs to advance a strong diplomacy aiming at conflict resolution in the region, especially with arch-rival India. Hence, the conference

Role of Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution (Pre-Conflict)

Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi, Executive Director of the Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS) enlightened the audience about the historical perspectives of diplomacy. Being a diplomat, he said, is a very difficult job. The job not only represents the public and state interests, but is also involved in negotiations, strategic agreements and building up of friendly relations for their respective governments. For the purpose of the talk, Mr. Ambassador shared many historical cases where diplomacy had helped in establishment of peace and resolution of conflicts, particularly at initial stages. Venturing into the Islamic roots of diplomacy, he reminded the audience of how during the earlier era of Islam, when a delegation of Christians from Najran (in Yemen) went to Medina. The Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be upon Him) not only allowed the delegation to worship in the Masjid-e-Nabwi but also allowed them to stay in the mosque. According to Mr. Ambassador, this presents a great example of diplomacy and its recognition and its utilization for the establishment and maintenance of peace.



Ambassador Naqvi discussed the diplomatic strategies employed by the Turkish Ottoman Empire (during the later era of Islam). He mentioned that some of the Italian states including Genoa and Venice, were more dependent on good relations with Ottomans, than their own naval

“Diplomacy has deep roots in the political history of the world.”

Amb. Ali Sarwar Naqvi

capabilities. However, he added, such relations between the merchants and diplomats raised a different sort of diplomacy, resulting in some advanced strategies of implementation.

In Europe, he continued, diplomacy has always been taken as a state system, starting from the ancient Greece to ancient Rome and including the Byzantine Empire and Medieval Europe. During the eighteen and nineteen century, at the time of French revolutionary and Napoléon wars, continual diplomatic exchanges were carried out, ending with the establishment of a balance of power system. A result of this, he informed the audience, was the Congress of Vienna which addressed the issue of long-term peace planning for Europe by settling the critical issues which had arisen from the French Revolutionary Wars and the Napoleonic Wars.

The 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, Mr. Naqvi explained, shaped the rules of diplomatic law, endorsed by Canada in 1966 and implemented by the Foreign Missions and International Organizations Act. The Convention codifies the rules for the exchange and dealing of representative between states. He continued to state that diplomacy has deep roots in the political history of the world. The Treaty of Versailles is one among the peace treaties which were signed at the end of World War I on 28th June 1919. It ended the state of war between Germany and the Allied Powers.

He went further to describe the League of Nations as an international organization that was the first of its kind. It was an intergovernmental organization founded on 10th January, 1920 as a result of

the ‘Paris Peace Conference’ that ended the First World War. League of Nations, whose ultimate objective was to sustain world peace, declared war to be illegal. However, in 1936 during Italy-Ethiopian War, all the settlements proposed by the League of Nations were in-vain as no great power supported it. Therefore, this led the world to the Second World War.

At the end of the World War II, when the world was divided into two blocks: Russian communism and the capitalist block, the United Nations was created. He explained to the audience that the main ideology behind the creation of United Nations (UN) was and is to save the world from destructions of war, prevention of war and maintenance of peace. While the UN did not outlaw war, it did introduce patterns to manage conflicts. Ambassador Naqvi informed the audience that the United Nations Conference on International Organization (UNCIO) took place in San Francisco, in 1975. The convention resulted in creation of the ‘United Nations Charter’, which favored freedom for human kind, a more peaceful world and absence of destruction through war.

In response to a question raised by Dr. Muhammad Makki regarding massive inconsistency in diplomatic role played by Pakistan in Kashmir, Mr. Ambassador elaborated that the Kashmir issue is very difficult and complicated. Mr. Ambassador

“Kashmir issue is very difficult and complicated. It needs to be solved through an impartial plebiscite.”

Amb. Ali Sarwar Naavi

addressed the question by highlighting major events through the lens of a ‘time-line’. In 1947, Kashmir signed a standstill agreement with Pakistan and the Maharaja of Kashmir delayed his decision in an effort to remain independent. However, due to Indian pressure, the Maharaja of the State of Jammu and Kashmir signed the Instrument of Accession (IOA) on 26 October, acceding the 75% majority Muslim region to the Indian Union. Ambassador Naqvi called to memory how India took the Kashmir issue to the United Nations Security Council, resulting in a ceasefire between Indian and Pakistani forces, leaving India in control of most of the valley. He also pointed to the historical fact that, on 5 January 1949, UNCIP (United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan) resolution stated that the conflict of Kashmir would be decided through a free and impartial plebiscite. The United Nations efforts failed by the 1960’s as India maintained a high level of military in Kashmir.

In other regions of the world, like North and South Cyprus and Korea, UN has performed various actions to prevent war. He gave examples of the US and Vietnam war, Paris peace talk, and the United Nations intervention during Gulf War to force Saddam Hussain’s Iraqi army from Kuwait and through its resolution demanding the withdrawal of Kuwait troops. The diplomatic role played by the United Nations has led to the resolution or management of several conflicts between states.

When asked a question by the audience on the role of diplomacy in spotlight of media for prevention of conflicts, he stated that the world has changed. Governments have evolved and there are several problems of global magnitude, like climate change, global warming, terrorism and human trafficking. All these factors have great potential to trigger wars. Therefore, diplomats have to rise to address these issues. In the present world, the media has become very extensive, and there are

many channels of information. In the vein, diplomats now have to be circumspective because their response and/or reactions can further complicate the issues.

Ambassador Naqvi concluded that diplomacy is a multilateral task. The Paris Peace Accords; a peace treaty focused the end of US-Vietnam war and maintenance of peace in Vietnam, had several dimensions, including the ceasefire issue, political settlement, re-unification of Vietnam and the withdrawal of US forces. The Indo-Pak conflict also has multi-dimensional diplomatic aspects like the water issue, mapping issue, Kashmir issue etc. These dimensions greatly affect the role of a diplomat and make it even more complex.

Role of Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution (During Conflict)

Ambassador Zamir Akram, who is currently serving as the permanent representative of Pakistan to the United Nations office in Geneva, spoke on the significance of diplomatic relations during a conflict. He started by clarifying it to the audience that no two conflicts are the same. They have different root causes, different reactions, and different magnitudes. They also depend on the perception of both opponents involved in the conflict. He explained that conflicts are multi-dimensional. Variables that affect conflicts include language, religion, culture and most importantly, the intensity of disagreement. He informed audience about several factors and situations that may lead to conflicts. Sometimes, he elaborated,



conflicts arise due to power assertion, political or governmental motives or egoistic approaches. Ambassador Akram enlightened the audience about the importance of diplomacy and negotiation by stating that: “if opponents do not show interest in negotiation, it may lead to chaos and destruction”. The role of diplomacy, he revealed to the audience, includes ceasefire, conflict management techniques and conflict resolution. Nations involved in conflict should be tolerant, and should accept the intervention of a third party for mitigation. He recognized the role of United Nations as an ‘outside player’ in several international conflicts.

When asked by the audience, if he thought that the role of diplomacy has been narrowing down within due to the absence of interstate conflicts, Ambassador Akram mentioned that people within states are still fighting. However, those who are fighting are actually proxies, which is why this

“Ideological differences do not necessarily mean war, but could be an important factor leading to war along with others.”

Amb. Zamir Akram

conflict is not that apparent. Answering another question, he elaborated his argument by stating that ideological difference did not necessarily mean war, but could be an important factor leading to war(s) along with others.

He argued that United Nations forms links among states during conflicts by evaluating the strengths and weaknesses of nations. He recognized, however, that most of the time the dispute is ideological and duration of the conflict determines the strength of conflict. If the conflict sustains over a long period of time, the state becomes more resilient to suggestions of collaboration, cooperation and ceasefire. Other factors that determine the course of a conflict include the terms and conditions or the scope of diplomatic action.

Ambassador Akram concluded by acknowledging the participation of countries in conflict resolution through the unique platform provided by the United Nations. In addition, he exemplified Pakistan’s role in the neutralization of Saud-Iran war and reminded the audience that the USA and China played an important role during Kargil war. Discussing the latest scenario of Pak-India situation, he further explained that India is being a stubborn opponent, while Pakistan is willing for an intervention by the United Nations. This is causing a tussle situation between both the States.

Role of Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution (During Conflict)

Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen, a Pakistani diplomat and teacher, initiated her talk by discussing the multiples and variables; including the number of belligerents, levels of respective forces, objective of belligerents and the nature and commitment of allies during a conflict.



She stated that different conflicts require different methods of resolution and management. Sometimes, different factors overlap each other, for which different sorts of measures, tools and techniques are considered to bring the conflict to an end. Conflicts among nations cannot end if even one of the countries refuses to accept peace interventions. She elaborated the factors involved in conflict resolution and said that foreign and non-foreign policies also play their role in such situations. Ambassador Nasreen continued to say that back channel diplomacy and peace arguments are important for conflict resolution. She informed the audience that the main mission of the United Nations is to create and safe guard world peace. In its early decades, due to the conflictual situations between the United States, Soviet Union and their respective allies, it was really tough to maintain and/or achieve peace. The organization (United Nations) also participated in major actions in Korea and the Congo, as well as approving the creation of the state of Israel in 1947. The Security Council, she further informed, is responsible for deciding certain resolutions for peace and security and it plays a major role in the United Nations' actions and policies. Diplomacy, she explicated, is not only restricted to the diplomats but is wide spread and includes the processes and procedures that surround issues like rehabilitation, regeneration, welfare and reconstruction of the nations.

On being asked about the failure of Palestine Summit, Ambassador Nasreen explained that; as other countries involved in the issue are not that committed to its resolution, hence they exploit the situation based on their own interests. This is why diplomacy has not worked out the way it could

“Different conflicts require different methods of resolution and management.”

Amb. Fauzia Nasreen

have. Another question on the working of back channel diplomacy was raised, to which she replied by explaining that back channel diplomacy is a multi-track diplomacy. Applying it to the case of Pakistan- India relations, she said that back channel diplomacy has played a very important role over the period of time. The same was done in the case of USSR and US, when tensions had accelerated between the two superpowers.

Ambassador Nasreen further elucidated that the start of a conflict means the failure of pre-emptive diplomacy. Therefore, the role of diplomacy is significantly altered due to this and it becomes a role of conflict termination, ceasefire or resolution. Conflict resolution, she said, is greatly dependent upon the acceptance of peace by both combatants and belligerents. On the acceptance of the conflicting parties, United Nations (UN) being the outside player performs the roles of mediation, attributions, adjudication and good office.

While answering to a question, Madam Ambassador pointed out that four types of politics exist, in which the main two categories are (i) 'real politics' and (ii) 'ideal politics'. One is a moralistic and ethical approach while the other is of self-interest. Therefore, the ideological dimension determines the strategic culture of people, and how they shall act during negotiations.

Elaborating the role of combatants, Madam Ambassador was of the opinion that the willingness of combatants to accept diplomatic route depends on the relative strengths and weaknesses, aims and objectives, terms, conditions and scope of diplomatic options.

She then defined the role of intermediaries and said that their acceptance to both belligerents/combatants, their influence and capacity, commitment and competing interests with other intermediaries matters a lot.

“Conflict resolution is greatly dependent upon the acceptance of peace by both combatants and belligerents.”

Amb. Fauzia Nasreen

Role of Diplomacy in Conflict Resolution (Post Conflict)

Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel, a senior retired Pakistani diplomat, defined post conflict diplomacy as “a war to end all wars”. He stated that post conflict situations included refugee settlements, negotiations and agreements regarding peace keeping and resolution, infrastructure development and rehabilitation, and indeed prisoners of war—the human dimension. He supported his arguments while discussing various events of the Korean War; recollecting how it began when soldiers from the North Korean People’s Army poured across the 38th parallel, leading to the first military action of the Cold War. He further elaborated the active and instrumental role played by OIC’s during the war of 1965 as well as the Bangladesh liberation war in 1971—due to which Pakistan formally recognized Bangladesh on 22nd of February 1974. Adding to it further, he informed that the ongoing Kashmir issue, the India-Pakistan water dispute(s) and Arab–Israeli conflict, frequently engage the United Nations in annual discussions, resolutions and resources. He revealed that: “since 1948, the United Nations Security Council has approved 79 resolutions directly related to the Arab–Israeli conflict”. With regards to many conflicts including Indus Water (India-Pakistan water dispute), the international organizations like World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) played an important role to ensure the establishment of peace.



Ambassador Kakakhel further elaborated that the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) is the regional intergovernmental organization and geopolitical union of nations in South Asia which promotes development of economic and regional integration. The United Nations good will ambassadors come from different organizations of the United Nations to not only help in building infrastructural and settlements of refugees etc., but to also play their part in peace keeping building and related processes. In response to a related question, he mentioned that; “the recovery and reactivation of economy depends upon the scale and the magnitude of war and destruction”.

Talking in detail on the issue of Kashmir, Ambassador Kakakhel elucidated that the United Nations has proposed many resolutions, welcoming India and Pakistan for dialogue but it has all gone in vain due to various disagreements between the two nations i.e., India and Pakistan. However, he

“The recovery and reactivation of economy depends upon the scale and the magnitude of war and destruction.”

Amb. Shafaat Kakakhel

emphasized, it is high time that we start including the Kashmiri narrative in these talks as well. Currently, no objective mechanism exists with regards to the inclusiveness of Kashmiri’s narrative; what they want and with whom they want to be amalgamated. It might even be so that the Kashmiris would prefer to be independent. If Pakistan wants Kashmir to be its part, he deliberated; then Pakistanis would have to prove themselves worthy for it. This, he reminded the audience, is because no one would want to be part of a country that already faces many major problems internally and/or externally.

On being asked about the failures of peacekeeping missions, Ambassador Kakakhel enlightened the audience of the fact that both India and Pakistan followed and then violated the rules of ceasefire multiple times. This has led to a deadlock between the two nations. There are about 21 peacekeeping missions working currently in different areas of world. In order for a mission to be successful, the durability of prevention methods for violence needs to be considered and it should be ensured that the rules of ceasefire are not violated. This is because, the actual work of peacekeeping missions starts after the ceasefire or prevention of violent conflict.

Interactive Session

Ambassador Wajahat Muftee initiated the session by reiterating the importance of diplomacy in different stages of a conflict. He highlighted the events that had occurred during the Russia-Ukraine conflict in midst of his appointment to Ukraine—as a Pakistani ambassador. He stated that the Ukraine conflict is a classic example of “how not to manage a conflict”. He further described the events of the conflict, saying that in 2004, after the “Orange Revolution” in Ukraine, pro-western government came into power and decided to join the European Union (EU) in-line with the aspirations of the people of Ukraine. After having gone through a long process, it was agreed between EU and Ukraine to sign the “Association Agreement” on 28 November 2013. However, he continued, on 24 Nov 2013, pro-Russian government in power at that point in time backtracked and decided to postpone the signing of “Association Agreement”, for an indefinite period. Majority of the people, especially, the young generation who were excited to join the EU, got disillusioned and gathered at Maidan to protest against the government decision.

He went on to say that this stage was a point where the parties involved had an opportunity to mediate and resolve the conflict. But on the contrary, all most all the diplomats of EU countries, instead of playing their appropriate role to resolve the issue at pre conflict stage, looked at it as an opportunity to curtail Russia. He further described the open support lent to the protestors. Some diplomats even went to Maidan and assured the protestors of their support, providing them with logistics to sustain. This further fueled the situation and ultimately, during February 2014, the Ukrainian police under the orders of pro-Russian government, attacked the protestors and about 97 people were killed.



Ambassador Muftee concluded that too many stakeholders cause the situation to deteriorate quickly, and therefore a particular situation gets mishandled. Many EU countries had reservations due to their economic and strategic interests, which reduced the impact of sanctions on Russia to quite an extent. This conflict had far reaching implications for the world. It provided Russia with an opportunity to come out of hibernation and assert in the world politics. He drew the attention of the audience to latest developments and said that the emergence of multi-polar world is not far off. He advised the audience to witness history closely and follow the developments in the world, especially the Ukraine conflict, in order to understand the mechanics of conflict resolution.

In response to a question *Mr. Mubeen Meher* re-emphasized on the role of diplomacy in resolution of international conflicts. He quoted Hans J. Morgenthau by stating that diplomacy is the promotion of national interest by peaceful means. Professional diplomats who are guided by the foreign policy of their government carry out this function. He elaborated the cause of conflicts by stating that conflicts are caused due difference of interests or misunderstanding of other's points of view, or a party feels threatened by the other. He expressed the opinion that preventive diplomacy should mostly be used to avoid disputes from arising and to try to prevent them from escalating into open conflicts.



Closing Remarks by Principal, NUST Institute of Peace and Conflict Studies (NIPCONS)

Major General Mazhar Saleem (R) gave the closing remarks at the roundtable conference. He thanked all the participants for being a part of the sessions and explained that the purpose of bringing them all together was to learn from the veteran diplomats who have dealt with various phases of conflict. He highlighted the role played by the Centre of International Peace and Stability (CIPS) in organizing series of conferences, seminars, academic programs and generating intellectual discussions. He acknowledged the importance of the opportunities to share the ideas of policymakers on the importance of diplomacy in a peacefully resolving complex conflict issues. He further appreciated and thanked Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF) for their collaboration with the CIPS for highlighting the role of diplomacy in maintaining international peace. General Saleem mentioned that the guest speakers' presence had greatly contributed in the clarification and deepening of the audience's understanding of the role of diplomacy during three critical stages: pre-conflict, during conflict and post-conflict—making it an academic and intellectual experience.

He concluded with the hope that the participants would continue unabated in their thirst for a better understanding of the contemporary world.



Bios of Speakers

Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi

Ambassador Naqvi is presently serving as the founding Executive Director of the Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS). In a long diplomatic career of thirty six years, from 1970 to 2006, he served at the United Nations in New York, Vienna, Washington D.C, London, Paris and Brussels in senior Ambassadorial positions. After serving as Pakistan's Ambassador to Austria and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), he was appointed a Member of Chairman's Advisory Council in the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC), and functioned as Adviser to the Chairman PAEC on International Affairs, with particular focus on International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) matters.

Ambassador Zamir Akram

Ambassador Zamir Akram is currently serving as the permanent representative of Pakistan to the United Nations office in Geneva. Prior to his appointment, he had been serving as Additional Secretary for foreign affairs in the Prime Minister's office since 2005 and Additional Secretary for Disarmament and Arms' Control. He was also Pakistan's Ambassador to Nepal from 2002 to 2005. Ambassador Akram's foreign postings include Washington, New Delhi, Geneva and Moscow. His posts at the ministry of foreign affairs in Islamabad include serving as Director General for South Asia, Director for Afghanistan, and selection officer for the Soviet Union.

Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen

Ambassador Fauzia Nasreen is a Pakistani diplomat and an academician. She was the Pakistani Ambassador to Poland and Nepal as well as the High Commissioner in Australia. At the end of her diplomatic career, she started teaching in Pakistan. In 2015 she was chosen to be one of 21 women who met for a conference at Harvard University, Kennedy School of Government funded by Hunt Alternatives.

Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel

Ambassador Shafqat Kakakhel is a senior retired Pakistani diplomat who served as the UN Assistant Secretary General and Deputy Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) from 1998 to 2008. He has served in Beirut, Cairo, Bonn and Jeddah in various capacities. He has also served as the Deputy High Commissioner in New Delhi and High Commissioner in Nairobi. During his tenure in Nairobi, he represented Pakistan as Permanent Representative to the UN Environment Programme and the (UN) United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (HABITAT) from September 1994 to August 1998. Ambassador Kakakhel has written extensively on Pakistan's water situation and trans-boundary issues between Pakistan and India.

