Introduction

This issue of CISS Newsletter provides a snapshot of the host of activities undertaken by the Center including research publications, and roundtable discussions, during the past three months.

Emerging technologies like hypersonic missiles, autonomous platforms, and updates in existing technologies will allow the adversaries to reach distant targets with more precision, impact, and speed. This will make decision-making, command and control, and nuclear forces more time-urgent, and vulnerable. In South Asia, India is the first to test its hypersonic technology demonstrator vehicle (HSTDV). This will affect the regional strategic stability, particularly when Pakistan is apparently unwilling to join the costly arms race.

Moreover, Huawei was banned in the United States due to its national security concerns. The US intelligence community accused the tech giant of conducting espionage for the Chinese government.

The CISS team has analyzed all these important international developments in detail included in the current issue of the CISS Newsletter.

Happy Reading!

Editor
Syed Sadam Hussain Shah

Editorial Assistant
Maryyum Masood
Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS), Islamabad organized a roundtable with Dr. Tariq Rauf, former Director of IAEA and consultant of CTBTO, on 18th July 2019, which was attended by senior former officials, experts and scholars. The topic of the roundtable was 'Current Challenges to Arms Control'.


Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi, Executive Director CISS, chaired a roundtable discussion organized by Islamabad Policy Institute (IPI) on PM Imran Khan's visit to the US on 24 July, 2019.

Round Table on Kalat's Accession with Pakistan: Separating Facts from Fiction with Dr. Rizwan Zeb (August 2, 2019)


CISS Round Table on Policy Shifts in Indian NFU: Road to Nuclear Brinkmanship (August 23, 2019)

The Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS) organized a roundtable discussion on “Policy Shifts in Indian NFU: Road to Nuclear Brinkmanship” on 23rd August 2019, which was attended by scholars, experts and formers diplomats and senior government officials. The two main speakers of the event were Dr. Naeem Salik and Dr. Mansoor Ahmed, Senior Research Fellows at CISS. For complete press release visit the link https://ciss.org.pk/ciss-round-table-on-policy-shifts-in-indian-nfu-road-to-nuclear-brinkmanship/
The Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS) held its first workshop outreach from 29th August to 1st September at Nathiagali. The workshop was titled as “Introduction to Pakistan's Nuclear Policy: Training the Trainers,” and it was inaugurated by the Executive Director CISS, Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi. Faculty members from different universities of Pakistan participated in the workshop.

For details visit the link [https://ciss.org.pk/1st-ciss-outreach-workshop-introduction-to-pakistans-nuclear-policy-training-of-the-trainers/](https://ciss.org.pk/1st-ciss-outreach-workshop-introduction-to-pakistans-nuclear-policy-training-of-the-trainers/)

Gen. Kidwai was speaking at the keynote session of a book launch titled 'India's Habituation with the Bomb', which had been organized by Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS).

HYPERSONIC WEAPONS AFFECT SOUTH ASIA TOO
Samran Ali (July 2, 2019)
Hypersonic technologies have already begun proliferating in the region. For instance, India tested its indigenous Hypersonic Technology Demonstrator Vehicle (HSTDV) on June 12. It is also developing the BrahMos-2 hypersonic missile with Russia's help.
For complete article visit https://ciss.org.pk/hypersonic-weapons-affect-south-asia-too/

US-CHINA TRADE WAR AND THE BAN ON HUAWEI
Tooba Rizwan (July 12, 2019)
There was a time that the United States stood uncontested and unparalleled in the international community, enjoying superiority on all fronts. However, the world is currently experiencing a paradigm shift, evolving from a unipolar to a multipolar world. Major powers like Russia and China have entered the arena, tipping the scales in their favour to alter the dynamics of geopolitics.
For complete article visit the link https://ciss.org.pk/us-china-trade-war-and-the-ban-on-huawei/

THE THREAT OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE WEAPONS
Saadain Gardezi (July 15, 2019)
Artificial Intelligence (AI) is a technological breakthrough that would render the world unrecognizable as we know it today. Though the idea that machines would possess human-like cognitive capabilities might have sounded like science fiction in the past century, it has now transitioned to reality.
Complete article can be accessed https://ciss.org.pk/the-threat-of-artificial-intelligence-weapons/

SIGNIFICANCE OF UNSCR 1540 AND EMERGING CHALLENGES TO ITS EFFECTIVENESS
Huma Rehman (July 26, 2019)
As the threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs) proliferation and terrorism emerged in the early 21st century, the International nonproliferation regime began to face several challenges. Adopted in 2004, the United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR)
1540 came as a response to such threats.

For complete article visit https://ciss.org.pk/PDFs/Significance-of-UNSCR-1540_by-Huma.pdf

MODI'S DREAM OF MUSLIM-MUKT BHARAT
Maryyum Masood and Sabeen Malik (August 11, 2019)
In addition to a failed economy, rising unemployment rates, and increasing corruption, the secular state of India and its Constitution will become another victim of the BJP's failing policies. Hence, the gradual politics of demographic engineering will sideline Muslim minorities not only in Kashmir but across India, making it a 'Muslim-mukt Bharat'.
Complete article can be accessed at https://ciss.org.pk/modis-dream-of-muslim-mukt-bharat/

KASHMIR DISPUTE: THE ALBATROSS AROUND INDIA'S NECK
Saima Aman Sial (August 15, 2019)
Since coming into power, the Modi government has done everything in its power to divert the world attention away from the real issue of atrocities and human rights violations that it has committed in Indian occupied Kashmir (IoK) and center it around a concocted narrative of so-called 'Pakistan sponsored terrorism'.
For complete article visit https://ciss.org.pk/kashmir-dispute-the-albatross-around-indias-neck/

A CHANGE FOR THE WORSE OR WORST
Amna Saqib (August 18, 2019)
The reality of geography is that you can change friends but not neighbours. India's present leadership is more likely to focus on leaving behind a foreign policy legacy that went from 'Neighborhood First' to 'Neighborhood lost'. Pushing back against Pakistan has always been a key feature of Modi's approach.
For complete article visit the link https://ciss.org.pk/a-change-for-the-worse-or-worst/

BREAK IN THE CLOUDS
Amna Saqib (August 20, 2019)
John Milton's 'silver lining' best explains the anticipated repair in Pak-US, relations with greater positive expectations in the wake of Prime Minister Imran Khan's meeting with President Trump. The Prime Minister's first visit to the US can be seen as a fresh start, which
may bring out something good after an extended time of mutual mistrust.
For complete article visit https://ciss.org.pk/break-in-the-clouds/

BJP'S MANIFESTO: WHAT'S NEXT IN THE BOX?
Afeera Firdous (August 20, 2019)
Abrogation of Article 370 (and Article 35A) of the Constitution of India, by Hindu nationalist government Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), has once again dragged the whole South Asian region to the brink of a crisis. On August 5, 2019, an Indian presidential decree revoked the special status of Indian-occupied Kashmir (IoK), dividing the state into two parts: Jammu and Kashmir; and Ladakh.
Complete article can be accessed at https://ciss.org.pk/bjps-manifesto-whats-next-in-the-box/

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KASHMIR AS A BONE OF CONTENTION BETWEEN TWO NUCLEAR POWERS
Amb. Ali Sarwar Naqvi (August 26, 2019)
Kashmir is referred to as the most dangerous place on earth. This is because Kashmir is a bone of contention between two nuclear powers, India and Pakistan. Any tension resulting from the Kashmir situation is cause for alarm, writes Ambassador Ali Sarwar Naqvi, Executive Director of the Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS), Islamabad, Pakistan.
For complete article visit the link https://ciss.org.pk/kashmir-as-a-bone-of-contention-between-two-nuclear-powers/

KASHMIR AND THE ABROGATION OF ARTICLE 370: A PAKISTANI PERSPECTIVE
Dr. Naeem Salik (August 27, 2019)
India's move to change the status of the disputed state of Jammu and Kashmir is another
manifestation of the Narendra Modi-led BJP Government's Hindutva ideology, which is aimed at “saffronising” India and turning it into a Hindu-dominated “Hindustan”.
For complete article visit https://ciss.org.pk/kashmir-and-the-abrogation-of-article-370-a-pakistani-perspective/

INDIAN HYPersonic WEAPons BRING NEW CHALLENGES TO SOUTH ASIA
Samran Ali (September 13, 2019)
This summer, India somewhat successfully tested a weaponizable Hypersonic Technology Development Vehicle (HSTDV) off its eastern coast in the presence of Defense Minister Rajnath Singh. Hypersonic weapons are the latest phenomenon in military technology: unlike traditional missiles, hypersonic missiles combine the speed of a ballistic missile at more than Mach 5—five times the speed of sound—with the low altitude and maneuverability of a cruise missile.
Complete article can be accessed at https://ciss.org.pk/bjps-manifesto-whats-next-in-the-box/

VISIT OF DR. SYED JAVAID KHURSHID OF ICTP, TRIESTE, ITALY
(From August 5 to 10, 2019)
Dr. Syed Javaid Khurshid, Distinguished Visiting Fellow, CISS visited The Dr. Abdus Salam International Centre of Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy from 5-10 August 2019. He is the founding member of Friends of ICTP, Former Executive Secretary of International Nathiagali Summer College and Former President of Pakistan Nuclear Society. During his visit he had several meeting with the President of “Friends of ICTP” and discussed matters pertaining to upgradation of its activities.