

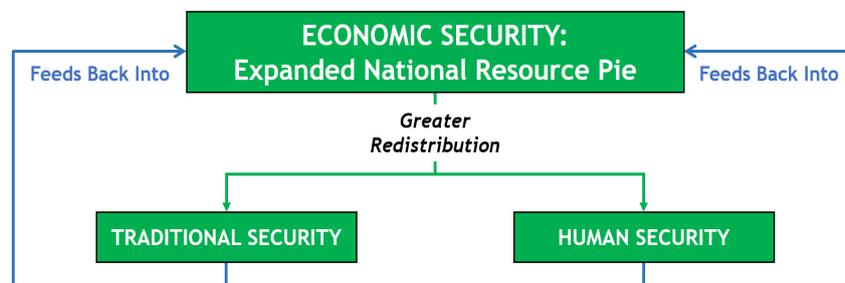
NATIONAL SECURITY POLICY OF PAKISTAN

2022 - 2026



A country is as secure as its most vulnerable citizen. The safety, security, dignity, and prosperity of citizens will remain the ultimate purpose of Pakistan's national security.

The National Security Policy (NSP) 2022-2026 is the first national security policy document of Pakistan. The NSP articulates a citizen-centric 'Comprehensive National Security' framework. It recognises that traditional and non-traditional threats and opportunities together impinge on overall national security. The Policy places economic security at the core of national security, emphasising a geo-economic vision to supplement the focus on geo-strategy, and recognises that sustainable and inclusive economic growth is needed to expand our national resource pie. Achieving this will allow greater availability of resources to bolster both traditional and human security. The foremost aim of our foreign policy and military capability will remain peace and stability in the region and beyond, based on mutual respect and sovereign equality.



Symbiotic Relationship Between Traditional and Non-Traditional Security



**PRIME
MINISTER**

“The National Security Policy 2022-2026 centres on my government’s vision, which believes that the security of Pakistan rests in the security of its citizens. This citizen-centric approach to national security prioritises national cohesion and the prosperity of people while guaranteeing fundamental rights and social justice without discrimination.”

NATIONAL SECURITY VISION

Pakistan is envisioned as an Islamic welfare state, internationally relevant and aligned with universal principles of justice, equality, and tolerance. Seeking a peaceful neighbourhood based on mutual co-existence, regional connectivity, and shared prosperity. A secure and economically resilient Pakistan, empowered by diversity of culture, and demographic dividends while ensuring fundamental rights and social justice without discrimination on the basis of caste, creed, or belief. Promoting good governance through strengthening of institutions, transparency, accountability, and openness as articles of faith.

THE PROCESS OF POLICY FORMULATION

The process of formulating the National Security Policy began in 2014. Multiple consultations were held with official stakeholders, including all federal ministries and divisions, provincial governments, governments of Gilgit-Baltistan and Azad Jammu and Kashmir, and military institutions. In addition, input was solicited from over 600 individuals, including National Security Division's Council of Experts, specialists, and civil society members, to make this document inclusive. Open hearings on the key contours of the Policy were also held in private and public universities.

THEMATIC SECTIONS

NATIONAL COHESION

An Islamic Republic based on the principles of equality and justice, empowered by diversity of culture, ensuring fundamental rights and social justice without discrimination, and delivering on its social contract with its people through good governance to strengthen national esteem and cohesion.

- Promoting 'unity in diversity' and patriotism by cherishing our ethnic, religious, cultural, and linguistic diversity.
- Strengthening the federal nature of Pakistan's structure by adhering to democratic principles and ensuring harmony among federating units and territories.
- Promoting transparency and effective and equitable delivery of public services to strengthen the state-citizen contract.

SECURING OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE

Achieve economic security and sovereignty through sustainable growth, inclusive development, and financial solvency.

- Addressing the three critical economic challenges linked to national security: external imbalance, socio-economic inequalities, and geographic disparities between developed and under-developed regions of Pakistan.
- Channelising Pakistan's geo-economically pivotal location for trade, investment, and connectivity.
- Moving towards a market-based energy sector, and prioritising indigenous energy resource development while securing dependable international access to energy sources.
- Ensuring access to affordable quality education and ushering in an era of technological innovation to produce globally competitive human resource.

DEFENCE AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

Ensure the defence and territorial integrity of Pakistan in all their manifestations.

- Defending our territorial integrity and guaranteeing border security at all costs.
- Deterring war through full-spectrum deterrence within the precincts of credible minimum nuclear deterrence in concert with our conventional military capabilities and all elements of national power.
- Maintaining a cost-effective and adaptive military focused on modernisation and optimisation of force structures.
- Strengthening space-based technology and its application to meet future challenges.
- Combating hybrid warfare through enhancing information and cyber security while confronting disinformation, influence operations, and economic coercion, among other hybrid warfare tools.

INTERNAL SECURITY

A stable and secure Pakistan where citizens enjoy their constitutional privileges and are protected against violence, extremism, and crime, and where rule of law is upheld equally for all.

- Ensuring writ of the state across the country to guarantee security of life and property of all citizens.
- Pursuing a policy of zero-tolerance towards terrorism, extremism, and violent sub-nationalisms.
- Fighting the menace of organized crime to ensure a safe environment for intellectual and economic activity.
- Developing an equitable, responsive, and citizen-focused justice system that preserves all rights guaranteed by the Constitution.

FOREIGN POLICY IN A CHANGING WORLD

Secure Pakistan's interests and position in the comity of nations through political and economic diplomacy.

- Cultivating broad-based relationships with global powers based on shared convergence on strategic and economic interests.
- Seeking regional peace through normalisation of relations in our immediate neighbourhood on the basis of mutual respect and sovereign equality.
- Ensuring a just and peaceful resolution of Jammu and Kashmir dispute in accordance with UNSC resolutions.
- Enhancing the role of economic diplomacy in our foreign policy initiatives.
- Leveraging our diversity and vast potential while countering negative perceptions about Pakistan and proactively engaging Pakistani diaspora on national issues.

HUMAN SECURITY

Pakistan's youth is the future of our country. Equipping them with the necessary tools and environment for their productive contribution to the nation will help leapfrog Pakistan into the future.

- Ensuring population stabilisation and management, urban planning, reenergising the rural economy, and the equitable development of smaller cities and towns to decrease urban migration.
- Pursuing youth-focused policies to promote skills development and entrepreneurship.
- Guaranteeing food security by increasing cultivatable land, adopting climate resilient agriculture, and legislating against illegal market practices.
- Improving preventive healthcare, strengthening disease surveillance and prevention, and instituting pandemic and epidemic response mechanisms.
- Mainstreaming climate adaptation and strengthening robust disaster preparedness, management, and response mechanisms.
- Developing a cohesive response to looming water scarcity through improved storage capacity, sustainable water management, and protecting transboundary water rights.
- Enabling participation of women and transgender persons in all avenues of public life and maximising their inclusion in public institutions and decision making forums.



**NATIONAL
SECURITY
ADVISER**

“Our national security thinking seeks to identify means of expanding economic resources such that Pakistan can simultaneously strengthen its traditional and non-traditional security. The most prudent approach is to keep economic security at the core, and judiciously transfer the dividends of a strong economy to further strengthen our human security, defence, and diplomacy.”