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Abstract: *The ongoing conflict among India and Pakistan could hamper the SCO's efforts to build trust and cooperation among its member states. The organization may struggle to overcome the historical grievances and identity-based narratives that fuel the conflict, thus limiting its ability to promote peace and stability in the region. This study examines how the Pahalgam attack is the primary cause of the suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty. The two countries have engaged in multiple wars and skirmishes over the disputed region of Kashmir, and tensions have recently escalated. The Global actors have played a key role for ceasefire between Pak-Indo conflict and Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) members state especially China and Russia performed brokered role to de-escalate the conflicts because both the states are member states of SCO and it is a regional security organization of which they have been members since 2017. Its primary objective is to promote cooperation and stability in Central Asia, South Asia, and the Middle East. The ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan threatens to destabilize the region and undermine the SCO's objectives. This research article aims to explore the role of the current conflict between India and Pakistan of the SCO and global players. Specifically, the study will examine the impact of the conflict on the organization's ability to promote security and stability in the region.*

Introduction

The tension between India and Pakistan traced to the partition of British India in 1947, which resulted in the formation of two independent states. Since then, the two countries have fought countless wars and border conflicts, particularly in the disputed region of Kashmir. The war between Pakistan and India has a lengthy history and complex history, marked by several wars and ongoing tensions. These conflicts have had widespread repercussions throughout the region, particularly within the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), a regional security organization established in 2001. The SCO is a multilateral organization comprising countries from Central Asia, South Asia, and East Asia, whose objective is to promote regional security, cooperation, and stability (Zahid Shahab Ahmed, April, 2019). Both India and Pakistan joined the SCO in August 2017, which offers both countries the chance to join but also provides difficulties and barriers for the organization because of Tran's boundary concerns, the Indus Waters Treaty, and Kashmir. The other SCO members face significant difficulties as a result of the two nations'

open confrontation. The SCO's operations have been directly impacted by the ongoing hostilities between India and Pakistan, as both nations have carried over their old grievances to the organization, creating tensions and making it impossible to agree on a number of subjects. Because of this, the SCO has been less successful in fostering regional security and collaboration, and the India-Pakistan rivalry frequently overshadows its initiatives. Furthermore, these disputes have sparked worries about the possibility of regional war escalation, which might have wider repercussions for the SCO and its member nations. Since any escalation of the war between India and Pakistan could have major consequences for the entire region, the organization's goal to promote regional stability and security is put at risk by the current tensions between the two nations. The (Four) Central Asian member states, which acquired independence after the disintegration of the USSR, are determined to maintain their hard-won status of sovereignty and autonomy. They have always prioritized their own objectives above all else, and they have no intention of giving additional powers to the SCO. All of this undermines the SCO's ability to build a single identity and common aims. Pakistan's strategic objective is domestic growth, and its rationale for joining the SCO is to rely on this regional organization to provide it with a security guarantee and boost for its development (Makengo, 2021). As major countries in South Asia, especially India and Pakistan face numerous challenges due to their strained bilateral relations. As a result, terrorism, cross-border clashes, socio-political discord territorial disputes, human rights violations and instability plague the South Asian region. Owing to the deep antagonism between the two nations, the cumulative human cost of the military conflict has become quite high over the years. After the partition of the subcontinent, turmoil in Indo-Pakistan affairs dominated the regional and national political context. The primary causes of the degradation of diplomatic ties are the divergent concepts of the majority of populations of both countries, and secondly, that the division of the Indian subcontinent against the will of the people, which has led to a religious and political conflict among the two newly established nations. Lastly, the unresolved territorial issue of Kashmir is the most essential and fundamental source of friction between the two nations (Khan, 2021). India and Pakistan, hostile neighbours and regional rivals, are at the heart of the regional realignment that followed the war on terror and have played a key role in regional dynamics, including the future of Afghanistan, since 2002. Their quest for SCO membership is both a demonstration of geopolitical and geo-economics concerns and an indication of their individual foreign policy responses to balance-of-power considerations and growing economic and energy needs. Despite these similar objectives, India and Pakistan's problematic interactions in multilateral forums, including SAARC, do not inspire confidence. The SAARC regional cooperation agenda has been overshadowed by the persistent India-Pakistan conflict and a lack of bilateral interaction could jeopardize SCO aims. Besides from the territory issue over Kashmir, considerable religious and political disagreements divide both the nations, accentuated by a history of failed dialogue attempts, mutual hatred, and mistrust (Zahid Shahab Ahmed, 2019). The cooperation within SCO asks member countries to end any terrorist preparations and stop acts within their borders, as well as to give up anyone involved upon request by another SCO country, as required by the laws of each state. So long as differences remain, it will be tricky for the organization to have India and Pakistan address common terrorism-related concerns similarly. As a result, if India and Pakistan's issues are debated in the forum, SAARC will be more effective. If India and Pakistan do not improve how they relate, there is a significant risk that the SCO will suffer from Indo-Pakistan difficulties, as the SCO decides matters by consensus. Even with the risks involved, India and Pakistan face greater rewards from joining the organization than they do risks. Adding India and Pakistan to the nuclear club will affect the whole area's power and ability. It is also known that India is a close partner of Russia, while Pakistan has a relationship with

China. These associations would generate different dynamics inside the SCO and be important factors influencing its policy decisions because of the conflict between the two neighbouring states. The two countries have faced instability and constant conflict ever since becoming independent. On top of other concerns, the Kashmir dispute is the biggest reason for strife in their relationship. Both nations have witnessed serious wars and remain challenged by cross-border gunfire, terrorism, encroachment and persistent distrust. Kashmir is split into two areas, Azad Jammu and Kashmir (AJK) on the Pakistani part and Indian-administered Kashmir (IHK) on the Indian side, by the de-facto Line of Control. The SCO insists that all members be free from serious conflicts between countries. If India and Pakistan want to meet their legal obligations for joining the organization, they should focus on improving their relationship, mainly around keeping the borders under control. Both nations should keep their borders stable to respect the early agreement among SCO members to remove military installations along the borders. On top of the border problems with Pakistan, Indian specialists are also concerned by China's cooperation with Pakistan in the new SCO framework against terrorism-related crimes inside India's borders (JAFFER, 2016). On December 24, 2024, India opposed Pakistan when it launched an attack against the Afghan terror group. The External Affairs Minister's Spokesperson for India, Randhir Jaiswal, said that New Delhi condemned the airstrike on December 24 that according to Pakistan, affected seven neighbourhoods and targeted hideouts being used by the Pakistani Taliban. "Assaulting innocent people." He said, "It's a routine for Pakistan to blame neighbouring countries for its own downfalls." India claimed earlier that cross-border terrorism in India was being supported and sponsored by Pakistan. He made the point that "whenever we examine terrorist acts, it always involves Pakistan," during a gathering last year. Many governments have asked Pakistan to get rid of its terror camps, but there was no response. New Delhi told Pakistan to act strongly against Masood Azhar for leading the 2001 Indian parliament attack and the 2019 Pulwama attack in which 40 Indian soldiers lost their lives, after recent reports showed him speaking at a rally in Pakistan. It is thus highly unacceptable when two SCO member states clash in the fight against terrorism (RT, 6 January, 2025). India shows an indirect tactic against Pakistan by financially supporting Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, the Baloch and similar movements. The capture of an Indian secret agent from the RAW intelligence agency in Baluchistan clearly proves India's role. To promote terrorism in the province, India established a work group in Baluchistan that is guided by RAW. The ministry has put into effect pan-India radio services and a website dedicated to the Balochi language. In addition, India's increasing numbers in military forces and its high degree of units specifically designed for Pakistan are troubling and a threat to regional peace. Our neighbour is leading a strategically organized and actively aggressive mission in various international forums to stop the CPEC and deny Pakistan its profits. Various efforts are being taken to cause disagreements and doubt among people about CPEC's grand projects, using weaknesses in society. In 2015, RAW made an extra allocation of \$500 million specifically to try to destroy the CPEC project, according to Volkhonsky (2018). The main axis of Pakistan's foreign policy is focused on India, as the state has long regarded its neighbour as its main foreign policy problem and as an enormous risk to its survival. A settlement that would bring peace to the region is being blocked by the unaddressed challenges of Kashmir. Although the constant hostilities brought on by partition exist, it is possible that in the future, the two states will engage in trade as members of the SCO. India's economy has progressed a lot and is set to keep expanding. With the agreement on transit for Pakistan and Afghanistan, as well as the completion of the TAPI transit pact, it is clear that India now recognizes how important Pakistan is to the region and is adapting its policies to match. Such circumstances would pose problems for Pakistan's foreign policy experts as they tried to create domestic policies that suit both its

national interests and are aligned with the SCO guidelines. Nevertheless, because of how well India is doing in the region and around the world, Pakistan has a greater need to contribute to peace. As a result, once Pakistan is accepted into the EU, it could deal with a tough choice (Uzma Gul, 2022). During an official visit to India on February 3, 2025, Russian State Duma Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin delivered a message from President Vladimir Putin to Indian President Drupadiy Murmu stated in a statement from the Russian Embassy in India. The State Duma Speaker, who was invited by Om Birla, Speaker of the Lower House of the Indian Parliament, held meetings with deputies of both houses and stressed the importance of parliaments in expanding relations between the two countries. During his talks with Birla, Volodin said that the dialogue between Russia and India is based on mutual respect, trust and non-interference in each other's affairs. "Trade turnover is growing, our humanitarian ties are strengthening," he said in a statement from the Russian Embassy in India (RT, 04 February, 2025). Millions of innocent lives have been endangered by India's repressive actions, which are motivated by an expansionist and hegemonic worldview. Indian troops have launched a campaign of terror against the people of Kashmir under the pretexts of counterterrorism and national security, exposing them to harsh laws, extrajudicial executions, enforced disappearances, and systematic demographic shifts. The Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and other terrorist proxies have long been used by India's top intelligence organization, the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW), to destabilize Pakistan. With the intention of causing turmoil and strife, these agents have launched innumerable strikes against Pakistani military installations, educational facilities, and places of worship. This multifaceted approach demonstrates India's determination to sow discord and thwart regional harmony while projecting to the outside world that it is a responsible democracy. Two Pakistani soldiers were wounded on February 12, 2025, when Indian forces again broke the ceasefire agreement in the Dewa and Bagsar regions. Pakistan has continuously denounced these violent acts, voicing worries about India's role in fomenting instability in places like Poonch, Bagh, Kotli, Mirpur, and Rawalakot. India's persistent efforts to terrorism civilian populations and destabilize the region are highlighted by the finding of Indian improvised explosive devices at key locations and indications of planned cross-border violence (Aimen, 16 February, 2025). India is getting ready to thwart Pakistan's bid to purchase a 1.1% share in the New Growth Bank (NDB), a company headquartered in China. On March 10, 2025, Business Standard reported that New Delhi is expected to voice its concerns at the next meeting of the Global Monetary Fund (IMF). The purchase of 5,882 NDB shares for \$582 million, including \$116 million in paid-up capital, was authorised by the Pakistani government in February. The action will assist Islamabad in diversifying its loan alternatives and lessening its reliance on World Bank and IMF funds and policies, according to Pakistani Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb.

The Financial Times claims that New Delhi would bring up the matter when the IMF meets in July 2024 to discuss the \$7 billion rescue package for the insolvent South Asian country. According to the article, India is anticipated to express its disapproval of the suggested deal with the NDB this time, in contrast to its custom of avoiding talking about Pakistan's loan requests to the IMF. India is anticipated to draw attention to Pakistan's inconsistent behaviour by pointing out that, although using IMF loans to reduce the danger of bankruptcy, the nation is also thinking about investing in the NDB, a different financier. According to the article, New Delhi would probably claim that this double-talk is intolerable.

Nevertheless, given how tight ties are amongst the two neighbours, India is likely to prevent Pakistan's possible participation (RT, 10 March, 2025)

Theoretical Framework

Disintegration is not a new phenomenon in theoretical debates. This research draws on the theory of

realism, presented by its early popular proponents, including Thucydides in the 5th century BC, Machiavelli in the 16th century, Hobbes in the 17th century, and Rousseau in the 18th and 19th centuries. Carl von Clausewitz worked on this theory. Realist theory suggests that states are selfish actors that prioritize their own security and power. The primary concern of all states is power and security. States build up their militaries to survive, which can lead to a security dilemma. In the context of the Indo-Pakistan conflict, the two countries are engaged in a power struggle for control of the disputed region of Kashmir. This conflict is likely to spread to other regions, creating instability and insecurity. Realism entails using relationships and military might strategically to expand worldwide dominance while preserving the balance of power. It is believed that the anarchic nature of world politics inherently leads to war. Realism also highlights the intricate dynamics of the security conundrum, wherein security-related acts may inadvertently lead to conflict among nations. Realistically speaking, the SCO's goal of advancing regional safety and collaboration is called into question by the ongoing confrontation among India and Pakistan.

The organization may struggle to mediate the dispute between its two member states and prevent further escalation. This theoretical context perhaps provides the best explanation for the ongoing integration process in Asia. Central Asia, South Asia, and other regions under the SCO umbrella offer promising integration prospects.

Indo-Pakistan standoff worsens after Kashmir attack

Tensions between India and Pakistan escalated sharply from the attack in Kashmir, in which 26 people have been died. The attack was taking place on the afternoon of April 22, 2025, in the Baisaran Valley. New Delhi accused Islamabad of supporting cross-border terrorism but Pakistan denied any involvement in the attack. Since the April 22 attack, the two countries have taken drastic measures to further deteriorate their diplomatic and trade relations. These relations had already been at a standstill since 2019, when the government of Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi abrogated Article 370 of the Constitution, which granted a degree of autonomy to Jammu and Kashmir. India was the first to act this week, expelling Pakistani diplomats, closing its land border, and suspending the key Indus Waters Treaty on Wednesday, saying the move would remain in effect "until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably renounces its support for cross-border terrorism." Islamabad responded Thursday by suspending key bilateral agreements and cross-border routes, closing its airspace to all Indian-owned or operated airlines, and declaring India's defence, naval, and air force advisers in Islamabad persona non grata (RT, 24 April, 2025). Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif stated in an interview with Sky News on April 25, 2025, that Pakistan had made a mistake in working with and supporting the United States and the United Kingdom against the War on Terror because of its role in regional security tensions, and that Pakistan had suffered as a result. "If Pakistan not participated in the war against the Soviet Union and the war that followed 9/11, its record would have been spotless," Asif said. He was referring to the Soviet-Afghan War, in which the United States covertly supported anti-communist insurgents, and the US-led "War on Terror" launched by then-President George W. Bush after the September 11, 2001, attacks, which targeted the Taliban and al-Qaeda. He added that when Pakistan was fighting alongside him in the 1980s against the Soviet Union, all these terrorists today would meet in Washington. They were treated like VIPs back then," he added. The minister suggested that the groups considered terrorists in the region are not separate entities, but part of a single organization sharing a common religious ideology. "They are all mixed. These are not multiple organizations. This is one organization, organized along religious lines, with different faces and leaders. Sometimes they collaborate, sometimes they fight each other." He added that "no country in the world has suffered as much from terrorism as

Pakistan" and accused India of following a "pattern" of blaming Pakistan for terrorist attacks on its territory. Asif, however, claimed that Islamabad had "never heard of" the organization, while Lashkar-e-Taiba "no longer exists." He said it was simply "very convenient" for the "big powers" to blame Pakistan for what was happening in the region. He also suggested that the Kashmir incident was a false flag operation and that Pakistan would face retaliation if India escalated the situation to airstrikes (Hindu, 25 April, 2025). The Indian Navy conducted a live-fire exercise in the Arabian Sea amid tensions with neighbouring Pakistan. The Indian Navy shared a video and photos of the anti-ship missile and Future Ready to protect the country's maritime interests (RT, 27, April, 2025). The Pakistani military has successfully launched a surface-to-surface missile called the Abdali weapon system, with an estimated range of 450 km (280 miles), according to defence officials. The exercise comes as tensions between Pakistan and its neighbour and regional rival, India, remain high following the deadly terrorist attack in Indian-held Jammu and Kashmir (RT, 03 May, 2025).

The Pahalgam attack is the cause of the abeyance of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT).

On September 1960 by the President of Pakistan Muhammad Ayub Khan Field Marshal and Prime Minister of India, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development signed a Treaty known as Indus Water Treaty (IWT) at Karachi. Both the governments acknowledge the need to establish and define, in an atmosphere of goodwill and friendship, each party's rights and obligations with regard to the use of these waters, as well as to make plans for the cooperative resolution of this issue, since they are equally committed to achieving the fullest and most satisfactory utilization of the waters of the Indus River System (Project, 16 January, 1962). After the Pahalgam the Union Minister of Jal Shakti C.R. Paatil discussed in a meeting on 25 April 2025, that the next steps in the suspended 1960 Indus Waters Treaty with Pakistan after the Pahalgam attack in India. The World Bank claimed that the step taken by India had not been informed to keep the Indus Waters Treaty abeyance (Hindu, 26 April, 2025). In response to India's plan to halt the Indus Waters Treaty, the Pakistani Prime Minister's Office stated that any effort to do so would be viewed as a "act of war." The nation has declared a number of retaliatory actions, including as halting every commercial transaction and closing its airspace to activities (Hindu, 25 April, 2025). India's choice to postpone the Indus Waters Agreement with Pakistan demonstrates that the country will not think twice about using water as a "weapon" if its political relations with its common riparian neighbours deteriorate, according to Professor Aninun Nishat, a noted authority on environmental degradation and water conservation in Dhaka.

The 1996 Ganga Waters Partnership renewal chances have been "cast a shadow" by the decision to freeze the Indus Waters Treaty. On December 12, 1996, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina signed the Indo-Bangladesh Ganges Waters Treaty with Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda was throughout the latter's first term. After three decades, the pact can be extended by "mutual agreement" and guarantees Bangladesh least water flow amid lean periods. The pact will thus be extended in 2026. The Ganges Treaty will be extended the next year, but India's readiness to share the river's waters with Bangladesh would be called into question if it keeps the Indus Waters Treaty suspended.

The two nations have lately had many formal talks over the renewal of the Indo-Bangladesh Ganges Waters Treaty. The matter was brought up during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's June 2024 official visit to India, which was her final trip before the July–August 2024 rebellion that forced her to flee Bangladesh. She went on to say that India could have a lot of choices if the Indus Waters Treaty were to be discontinued. The Ganges Conversation was then continued by the interim administration, which was headed by Senior Advisor Professor Mohammed Yunus. On March 6, 2025, the Indo-Bangladesh Combined River Commission's technical group met in Kolkata, with a primary focus on the Indo-

Bangladesh Ganges Water Treaty. On this particular trip, the Bangladeshi crew also went to the Farakka Joint Observation Site. (Bhattacharjee, 26 April, 2025).

Secondly the India released water into the Jhelum River in the Hattian Bala area of Muzaffarabad without informing Pakistan. The Muzaffarabad administration declared a water emergency. A sudden and significant flood of the Jhelum River caused panic among the local population. Announcements were made in mosques in riverside villages to evacuate to safer areas. This decision by India is a blatant violation of international law and river agreements. By releasing water without prior notice, India has endangered the lives and property of Pakistani citizens and has once again revealed its malice (News, 27 April, 2025). Prime Minister Shehbaz emphasized during the graduation parade of cadets at the Pakistan Military Academy that Pakistan's stance against terrorism indicated that Pakistan has consistently condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as a frontline state in the world against terrorism. He also criticized India for what he described as a "tendency of exploitation" through baseless allegations and false accusations without credible investigation or verifiable evidence. He also drew a hard line on the issue of water resources, emphasizing that the continued flow of water under the Indus Waters Treaty was a red line. "Water is a vital national interest of Pakistan, our lifeline," he said. "Any attempt to stop, reduce, or divert the flow of water belonging to Pakistan under the Indus River Treaty will be met with full force and might (Syed, 27 April, 2025). A rise in the water level of the Jhelum River in Muzaffar Abad has been recorded, causing panic among residents. They thought it was a flash flood triggered by India upstream; a resident told Dawn News on April 27, 2025. A daily water situation report released by the Water and Power Development Authority (WAPDA) also confirmed an increase in the flow of the Jhelum River (Naqash, 27 April, 2025).

India and Pakistan blocked the trade system and Airspace for each other

India has closed its airspace to all aircraft linked to Pakistan, including military flights, as tensions between the nuclear-armed. A notice to air missions, issued by New Delhi on April 30, 2025, stated that Indian airspace is not accessible to aircraft registered in Pakistan and aircraft operated or leased by Pakistani airlines." This is in response to Islamabad's ruling against India that India should not use Pakistani airspace (RT, 1 May, 2025). Islamabad has denied any involvement in the attack in Kashmir. On 23 April, 2025 the Pakistan responded to India's actions by suspending key bilateral agreements and cross-border routes, and closing its airspace to all Indian-owned or operated airlines. New Delhi has reduced the staff of the Pakistani High Commission, expelled Pakistani diplomats, and closed its land border. The country also suspended visa services for Pakistani nationals and advised Indian citizens in Pakistan to return home quickly (RT, 2 April, 2025). On May 3, 2025, India announced a series of sweeping punitive measures against Pakistan, suspending all imports and postal services, and barring Pakistani vessels from accessing ports. A notification issued by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade on May 2 banned "the direct or indirect import or transit of any goods originating in or exported from Pakistan, whether or not freely importable or otherwise permitted," effective immediately. According to trade data cited by The Times of India, India's imports from Pakistan amounted to only \$2.8 million between April 2024 and January 2025. However, its exports to the neighboring country amounted to \$1.18 billion, primarily organic chemicals and pharmaceuticals. In 2022-2023, India exported goods to Pakistan worth approximately \$627 million and imported \$20 million (RT, 04 May, 2025).

The response of global players between India and Pakistan to resume the fight and bring to the negotiating table for a ceasefire

The growing violence involving India and Pakistan has deeply alarmed Russia, which has called on both nations to take action to stop it from getting worse. Islamabad threatened to retaliate for what it saw as

a breach of its sovereignty when the Indian military established Operations Sindoor on May 6, 2024, while carrying out nine strikes in Pakistan and the Pakistani-administered Kashmir region instantaneously. "Russia denies any terrorist activity, strongly condemns all acts of violence, and emphasizes the need for nations around the world to unite in order to battle this plague," the Russian Foreign Ministry stated on May 7, 2024.

Moscow urged moderation and said it hoped conflict between India and Pakistan would be settled "through peaceful political and diplomatic means." Regarding the April 22 assault, Russian President Vladimir Putin called Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 5, 2025, to express his personal condolences and to reiterate the two nations' strategic relationship. The previous week, Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov reached out to his Indian and Pakistani colleagues, pledging Moscow's support to Muhammad Ishaq Dar and Subrahmanyam Jaishankar in lowering tensions (RT, 7 May, 2025).

According to a joint declaration on global strategic stability announced on May 8, 2025, China and Russia encouraged nuclear-weapon states to give up the Cold War mindset and zero-sum games, according to the People's Republic of China's Xinhua News Agency. In order to handle global strategic concerns, both sides underlined how crucial it is to keep positive relations between major powers. Recalling that nuclear-weapon states have unique obligations to global strategic stability and international security, the statement advised them to abstain from actions that pose strategic risks and to address concerns through respectful, equitable dialogue and consultation in order to build trust and prevent risky mistakes.

The statement also said the two sides emphasized that, as part of a trilateral security partnership, the United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia are attempting in order to undermine regional strategic stability and start a regional arms race by establishing military installations on the territory of a signatory to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty that are utilised by the two nuclear-weapon states to defend their nuclear capabilities (China, 9 May, 2025). On May 8, 2025, U.S. Vice President J.D. Vance stated that India and Pakistan needed to deescalate tensions, adding, however, that the United States could not control its nuclear-armed Asian neighbors and that a war between them would not concern them. The goal was to de-escalate tensions as quickly as possible. In an interview on Fox News, he stated that he could not control these countries. He added that he could encourage these countries to de-escalate slightly, but that we were not going to get involved in a war that fundamentally does not concern us and has nothing to do with the United States' ability to control it (Singh, 9 May, 2025).

On May 10, 2025, Pakistan and India agreed on ceasefire, bringing the nuclear-armed neighbors' to the verge of war after days of fighting that claimed thousands of lives. In a message posted on Truth Social on May 10, 2025, President Donald Trump declared that India and Pakistan had agreed to a complete and early ceasefire, calling the peace the result of a "long night of negotiations" brokered by the United States. The Prime Minister of Pakistan, eventually praised Trump, along with the leaders of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, China, Britain, and the United Nations. He addressed his nation and called the ceasefire "a victory for our honor and principles." He stated that the decades-old conflict over Kashmir and water should be resolved through negotiations, not on the battlefield (Niha Masih, 11 May, 2025).

Soon thereafter this declaration, the Indian Ministry of External Affairs reported that on May 10, 2025, the Pakistani side initiated a phone call in which the heads of military operations of the two nations agreed to end all hostilities. Ishaq Dar, the foreign minister of Pakistan, confirmed the deal without mentioning US involvement. According to New Delhi, the truce went into force at 5:00 p.m. local time (RT, 11 May, 2025).

French Foreign Minister Jean-Noël Barrot condemned the April 22 terrorist attack and expressed his

solidarity with India in an interview on TF1, according to Al Jazeera: he stated that We clearly encourage India and Pakistan to exhibit prudence in order to prevent escalation and, of course, to safeguard individuals, notwithstanding India's willingness to defend itself from the evil of terrorist.

British Foreign Secretary David Lammy described the tensions as a "grave concern" and called for direct dialogue. The British government urges India and Pakistan to exercise restraint and engage in direct dialogue to find a swift diplomatic solution. Japanese Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshimasa Hayashi condemned the terrorist attack in Kashmir and expressed concern about a possible escalation. For the sake of stability in South Asia, he claimed that strongly urge India and Pakistan to maintain caution and resolve the situation via discussion (Desk, 9 May, 2025).

At a high-level summit in Saudi Arabia on May 13, 2025, US President Donald Trump claimed to have arranged a cease-fire between India and Pakistan, suggesting that the two super power neighbours' nations "have dinner together" to defuse tensions. President Trump affirmed his role as mediator, despite India's strong denial of any outside assistance and insistence that direct negotiations led to the ceasefire accord with Pakistan. He also asserted that, primarily through commerce, his government had been successful in negotiating a historic ceasefire to stop the growing hostilities between India and Pakistan. He went on to say that millions of people might have perished if he hadn't put an end to the fight, which started out tiny and got bigger every day. The US president also praised Rubio, Vance, and other participants in the peace negotiations, saying they did an amazing job (Abbas, 14 May, 2025).

Conclusion

The ongoing conflict between India and Pakistan is a long-standing issue with significant implications for regional stability and the broader international community. Additionally, by reducing bilateral disputes among member nations, the International Players' consensus structure enables policy harmonisation. In order to make it a sustainable regional organisation, it also gives disputing parties a forum to address their difficulties in side-by-side leadership sessions. By keeping the issue of bilateral issues on the agenda, SCO members have taken care to avoid undermining the organization's integrity. On the eve before the two nations' full membership, China specifically cautioned them against bringing up their bilateral disagreements in negotiations. However, this does not imply that such a turn is totally impossible. Another explanation for the SCO growth could be the improvement in relations between Russia and Pakistan as well as the decades-long strengthening of ties between Russia and India. Lately The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) reiterated its commitment to using discussions and dialogue to resolve international issues and conflicts peacefully at its 23rd summit, which took place on October 16, 2024. Prior to the Pahalgam event, Indian authorities seized various Kashmiri properties and territories. These razing, conducted under the cover of counterterrorism operations, will eventually result in the expropriation and transfer of these assets to Indian nationals residing in occupied Kashmir. Such Pahalgam incident is the outcome of Indian authorities against the aspirations of the Kashmiri people, in which land is forcibly removed from indigenous Kashmiris and handed over to non-state squatters to boost hotel and casino development projects. India demonizes Pakistan as a nation sponsor of terrorism, using this term to cement its diplomatic isolation and destabilize it through proxy groups such as the TTP and the BLA. India and Pakistan have struck a ceasefire, but they still have a lot of issues. Both India and Pakistan are prioritising a territorial dispute over their actual and urgent issues. Both governments—one a seized and military-ruled state, the other an election democracy with a religious majority—are ignoring the urgent issues facing the area. Rather, they keep repeating old propaganda that is based on the two-nation theory, which holds that "Muslim Pakistan" and "Hindu India" have separate interests because they speak different languages and have different cultures. Maybe it's time

to acknowledge that the two nations share a lot in common and need to work together to find solutions to their problems.

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