
National Security of Pakistan and Democratic Sustainability

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This research is envisioned to make an empirical evaluation of current National Security Policy issued by Interior Ministry of Pakistan in 2022 based on traditional and non-traditional antecedents with all their concomitants. The substantial research assumption is that the national security of Pakistan is preconditioned with the sustainability of political democratic process. Evidently, policy-making in a federal democratic state is a holistic procedure comprising the inclusion of all stakeholders with bottom-up approach for the formulation of worthwhile policies to ensure the viability of the system. This research would have a 'triangular qualitative methodology' including document analysis of National Security Policy, relevant secondary literature, observations and interviews to magnify its adequately integrated nature along with the challenges to political stability in Pakistan. This would address the research questions that why did the current political turmoil take place and affect the national security of Pakistan? How did political forces contribute to the feasibility of the democratic process? Although National Security Policy epitomizes the harmonious approach to territorial integrity, human security with vertical and horizontal socio-economic development among all federal entities, ethnic cohesion, strong defence with full-spectrum deterrence, internal security to mitigate factionalized norms and astute diplomatic engagements in the global arena. But these objectives are achievable with political stability in Pakistan. This research determines that the international forces as a push factor and vulnerable political forces inside Pakistan as a pull factor derailed the system and have created the security risk.

Key Words: National Security Policy, Democratic Sustainability, Triangulation, Qualitative Document Analysis

Introduction

National security is a multi-dimensional phenomenon in the present age of globalization. It comprises all factors i.e human security, socio-economic equalities, inter-ethnic harmony and strong defence against external threats. Pakistan has been facing various security paradoxes due to tense relations with neighbouring states and complex dynamics of global and regional politics including competing interests of US and China in South Asia. Then issues of terrorism and sectarianism caused unfortunate collateral damage during past decades. All through the initial years of Pakistan, security was largely perceived as border security. Pakistan-India rivalry posed various threats to territorial integrity. Pakistan joined US led SEATO (South East Asian Treaty Organization) and CENTO (Central Treaty Organization) in 1954 and 1955 successively for her security concerns. Though these defence alliances did not provide support against India but the successive governments in Pakistan remained aligned with US to seek her regional interests in South Asia. Historically, Pakistan's national security policy largely revolved around Kashmir issue and nuclear deterrence. However, in the modern era numerous variables are considered to formulate national security policy of democratic federal state. The objectives of this research are to:

1. to examine the formulation process of national security policy,
2. to evaluate the connection between national security and political stability and
3. to examine the current political turmoil in Pakistan affecting its national security.

This article entails triangulation method for corroborating the underlying assumption. The rationale behind the use of document analysis as a qualitative research method is to reduce the chances for potential biases in the interpretations of the current "National Security Policy" in Pakistan. The data collection tool is an introspective analysis of the policy document to seek more valid results. It also considers the credibility of theme developed to ascertain the authenticity of research argument that national security of Pakistan lies in political stability. First two sections of policy formulation and the conceptualization of national security focuses on safeguarding state's sovereignty. It is preconditioned with inter-ethnic harmony while acknowledging regional diversities in order to promote constructive political engagement among all federating units. Similarly challenges to economic security can be turned into opportunities through political stability. Then it is envisaged that Pakistan needs continuity in policy-making and consensus-building which is possible through political steadiness in the state structure. Furthermore, the third section of the policy document epitomizes that good governance and state-citizen bond are strengthened by national cohesion.

This policy objective can be achieved through strong and stable representative institutions. Then section four comprises the strategies to ensure economic development including export-led growth, austerity measures, poverty alleviation for human security and sustainable growth. In a similar way political stability is

assumed to provide sound basis for economic security of Pakistan. Moreover section five and six addresses the issues of defense and internal security aligned with stability of the political system. Last section of the policy document is related to foreign policy options for Pakistan. Emerging regional and global challenges pose threats to the security of the state which can be deterred by political stabilization. Semi-structured interviews are conducted from politician and retired military officer to derive the antecedents to formulate the national security paradigm in Pakistan. Moreover snow-balling sample comprising 150 respondents from students, academia and media persons is set to stem more viable elucidations.

A. Literature Review and Research Questions

Various proponents explained the process of public policies, priorities of the governments and rational choices for the states. (Birkland, 2016) elucidates that public policy is determined by the government to resolve the problems of public whether it is health care, education, issues of sanitation, infrastructure or lawlessness. Government also passes laws to contain offensive and criminal elements to foster peaceful environment. The relation between public policy and politics is significant because policies reflect the priorities of elected bodies. Democratic governments prefer bottom-up approach for policy-making to accommodate all diversities. Moreover, regional and global dynamics of the state are largely considered by the decision-makers to avail better opportunities. Currently, the national governments are concerned about the climate- change and its implications for human life therefore industrial policies are mainly revisited to avoid carbon emissions. The most important stage in policy-making is problem-identification at the right time like during Great Economic Depression 1930s US realised to promote reciprocal trade policies and introduced New Deal Policy by Roosevelt in 1933 for economic liberalization.

(Mead, 2013) develops a link between public policy and politics. The phenomenon of public policy gained scholarly attention during the decade of 1960s. In this backdrop the changing trends in US policy-making magnified the parameters of policy process. Representative entities in democratic states formulate policies, considering the demands articulated by the general masses. The administrative machinery of the government is responsible to devise policies to satisfy the general will. Similarly, the legislative input given by the institutions promotes consensus for better policy options. The top-most priority of the elected members is to mobilise the people to secure the national interest of the state. Then the policy framework is shaped to achieve the targets of political development. As a matter of fact the policy process is a holistic mechanism which can't be done in isolation.

Democratic political system aims to form inclusive policies to mitigate inter-ethnic discrepancies in heterogeneous state. Public policies need to be rationally designed to provide maximum benefits to the general masses within available resources. Side by side the continuation is equally important to get fruitful results. The role of institutions including legislature, executive and judiciary become more pronounced

in implementation of policies to strengthen the political system. Apart from aforementioned institutions certain other political dynamics i.e. political parties and pressure groups also give their input with respect to policy-making. Then bureaucratic structure of the state is responsible throughout since the formulation till the implementation of policies. Furthermore, the evaluation of policies is essential to examine the authenticity of entire process.

(Easton, 1957) epitomizes that the attributes of political system which has certain environment, boundaries and political actions. The ultimate objective of every political system is to devise authoritative regulations and values for the welfare of the people while securing the interest of the state. In this perspective state is considered as the highest organization in the present world to preserve the public sentiments. Since the political culture in every state reflects the popular orientation towards the political system therefore, public demands are perceived as strong inputs for the system. Then demands are supposed to be addressed by the policy-makers otherwise they convert into issues. An effective working of the system requires sound policy-making based on rule of law with popular support. Consequently the responsibility lies with the government to maintain balance between the input and output functions of the political system depending upon the nature of the either democratic or autocratic.

(Khan, 2014) focussed that apart from smooth functioning of the political system the security of the state is the prime responsibility of the government. Therefore national security policy needs to be framed on sound grounds. During Cold War era U.S and USSR have been pursuing multiple defence policies including pre-emptive, preventive, offensive depending upon the changing dynamics of world system. Under the volatile security conditions prevailing during Cold War and post-Cold War year's regional state actors also adopted grand security strategies in accordance with their regional and global compulsions. Pakistan largely remained inclined towards U.S in terms of her security quest mainly against Russian Communism and defence from Indian borders. Pakistan played a role as a frontline state during Afghan War since 1979 till the collapse of Soviet Russia.

In a due course of time Pakistan became a nuclear power in 1998 to develop its deterrent capability in South Asian region. The policy-makers endeavoured to prioritise the security arrangements to defend nuclear assets and border security. Although Pakistani nuclear scientists i.e. Dr. Abdul Qadeer Khan were criticised for nuclear proliferation and threat for regional peace but national security policy was shaped by successive governments in the past to counter lawlessness, insurgencies in Balochistan since 1970s and terrorism in Federally Administered Tribal Areas after 9/11 incident. Pakistan Government established National Command Authority in 2000 to monitor security related issues. Then in 2001 Pakistan Nuclear Regulatory Authority was founded to regulate the use of nuclear energy. Similarly Strategic Plans Division was aimed to improve the control of nuclear weapons. Later in 2009 National Counter Terrorism Authority was created under Interior Ministry of Pakistan for countervailing strategies to combat terrorism.

(Bowen, 2009) explains that document analysis is used as a source of triangulation research method to verify the evidences and relevant data. It not only helps to review the document but the credibility of the respective organization is also examined. The rationale behind this method is to scrutinize multifarious factors including political, economic, cultural, and historical related to the policy document. This technique is significant to avoid biases in literature review. Document analysis is largely based on certain themes for evaluating the element of causation to explicate diverse parameters upon which the specific policy parameters were set in the document. It has similarities with thematic analysis and content analysis on the basis of categorizations of data in order to develop research assumptions. This technique supports both case study and grounded theory with the purpose to establish arguments by the researcher. It is also considerably convenient method due to low-cost. This research addresses the following questions:

1. Why have the dynamics of formulation process of national security policy been critical in the past?
2. What is the connection between national security and political stability in democratic state of Pakistan?
3. How did the current political turmoil in Pakistan affect its national security?

B. Dynamics of the Formulation Process of National Security Policy in Pakistan

National security policy is considered as superior to all other policies in the state. It comprises the comprehensive framework to deter all internal and external threats with the support of domestic consensus and international cooperation. Similarly in Pakistan the policy-makers in interior ministry remained concerned about the safeguards to pursue the credibility of security agencies for the attainment of security objectives. For that purpose military strategies and defence policies were designed to foster the national security in Pakistan. Moreover, National Security Council¹, various think tanks and inter-departmental working groups give their input to formulate the policy. National security policy in 2014 was prepared within seven years and composed of three components including secret, strategic and operational. Since 2001 onwards till 2020 Pakistan was a part of US led War on Terror. Pakistan government and security forces engaged in dialogue process with militant and terrorist elements to eradicate terrorism largely from the Northern areas of Pakistan. Security policies during last twenty years focused on de-radicalization, reintegration and reconciliation processes through different institutions like NACTA.

Conversely, the 2014 security policy was executed to monitor madrasas in terms of their registration and constructive academic engagement to bring them in mainstream. In a similar way militant wings were also incorporated through talks and peace agreements (Anonymous, 2014). However this policy was criticised on

certain grounds. It did not make distinction between terrorism and militancy. Then there was a lack of comprehensive mechanism to combine all stakeholders like political parties and civil society. As a matter of fact the policy addressed many issues but completed none. There was a need for more operational strategies. In addition to that ISI was projected as law-enforcing authority but it is responsible for security related data collection agency. Provincial governments had their reservations that they were not consulted by the interior ministry. This policy did not provide any feedback or evaluation device to make improvements and gave all tasks to NACTA without enhancing its capacity. Afterwards civil-military coordination to contain terrorism was not effectively structured for preserving state security.

In a due course of time Pakistan military concluded various peace agreements with Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan (banned organization in Pakistan) to overcome terrorist activities mainly near Pak-Afghan border areas. These agreements included Shakai Agreement 2004, Sararogha Agreement 2005, Miranshah Agreement 2006 and Swat Agreement 2009 to establish writ of the state. Nevertheless, these agreements did not bring fruitful results and TTP remained powerful militant organization in border areas. The TTP leadership (Hakeemullah Mehsud, Mehmud Khan) used these peace agreements to reorganize them. Their basic demand was to force Pakistan Government and security forces to disconnect US supply line and logistic support in border areas. They also developed their linkages with other local organizations like Lashkar-e- Jangvi and Al Qaeda to expand their network. Army Chief at that time Ashfaq Pervez Kayani reiterated that that no state can have parallel militant force (Ali, 2013).

Despite all these developments there was a realization on the part of political and military power centres that the security policy was needed to be revisited as during twenty years of War on Terror Pakistan had a set back to her economy and social fabric. In order to have viable progress more pragmatic strategies were supposed to be implemented. Different dimensions of security were determined by the policy-makers to put Pakistan on right trajectory. New security policy 2022 was aimed to encompass diverse aspects of human security, environmental security, economic security, border security, national integration and sustainable development. However, all these objectives could be achieved with sound political system based on democratic norms. New policy provided a holistic perspective of national security of Pakistan.

a. Connection between National Security and Political Stability in Pakistan

Political stability provides sound grounds for even policy-making but mostly developing states have been facing the challenge of political instability due to fragmentation in deeply divided societies. Similarly Pakistan faced issues of political instability in the context of legitimacy of the previous governments, identity politics by the nationalist entities, military intervention and religious rhetoric by right-wing conservative forces, creating problems for national security

throughout in the history. Since the time of its inception not only democracy but national security both were being undermined in Pakistan during 1947-58 due to political instability and led to military and bureaucratic intervention in politics. Political system experienced Ayub Khan's martial law (1958-1969) and Yahya Khan's martial law (1969-1971) which increased volatility, vicious circle of authoritarianism, socio-economic discrepancies, and non-recognition of regional diversities in Pakistan that eventually led to the disintegration of the federation.

Later during the decade of 1970s, Bhutto established foundation of federal democracy under 1973 constitution but practically continued with the trends of centralization. The contrast between theory and practice prop up ethnic antagonism, language riots in Sindh and political victimization of opposition parties in Balochistan and North West Frontier Province that resulted in poor law and order situation. Then Zia's martial law since 1977 till 1987 manifested the defiance of democratic process, delays in general elections, denial of civilian supremacy and caused for institutional imbalance. Pakistan being a frontline state during Afghan War paid a heavy price while compromising her security. Afterwards the subsequent dissolution of assemblies during 1990s on the charges of corruption accentuated power tussle between the office of president and prime-minister. However, civil-military controversy paved a way for another martial law in 1999 by Musharraf.

It was again a transition from civil to military rule. Musharraf regime envisioned to promote the concept of enlightened moderation, women empowerment and independence of civil society and media. Local bodies and parliamentary democracy were supported by Musharraf under the umbrella of 17th amendment² in 1973 constitution (Memon et al., 2012). He strengthened the office of president. Simultaneously, Pakistan underwent a war on terror led by US after 9/11 attacks which not only threatened national security rather more collateral damages, spread of terrorism, suicidal bombing and emergence of religiously-driven groups like Tahreek-e-Talban Pakistan. Former President Musharraf restructured National Security Council in 2002 to develop a consultative mechanism on security and foreign policy matters. But his patterns of governance demonstrated non-democratic practices in state structure mainly due to the termination of Chief Justice of Pakistan Iftikhar Chaudhry, the murder of Baloch leader Akbar Bugti, violation of constitution while imposing 2007 emergency in Pakistan and missing person's case during War on Terror.

Consequently, mass protest by political parties and Lawyer's Movement started against Musharraf during March 2007 as he was perceived to prolong his rule through dictatorial tactics. All these subsequent developments posed serious challenges to Pakistan's security in terms of terrorism, proliferation of anomic groups like Balochistan Liberation Army led by Khair Baksh Mari against discriminatory policies of Musharraf regime towards Baloch population and poor law and order situation in northern areas of Pakistan due to military operations. Nevertheless, general elections were held in February 2008 and Pakistan People's Party established coalition government. Later Musharraf had to resign in August

2008 to avoid impeachment. Afterwards, during 2008-2013 PPP led government, army began counter terrorism strategies. Various military operations including Operation Zalzala (2008), Operations Sher Dil, Rah-e-Haq and Rah-e-Rast (2007-2009) and Operation Rah-e-Nijat (2009-2010) continued in Federally Administered Tribal Areas and Provincially Administered Tribal Areas to contain terrorist elements.

In 2013 elections Pakistan Muslim League (N) emerged as a majority party and Nawaz Sharif became prime minister. New government faced multiple internal security challenges as attack on Army Public School in Peshawar and massive killing of innocent children. Interior ministry announced first ever national security policy in 2014 to meet the threat of terrorism. Pakistan Army started Operation Zarb-e-Azab in 2014 to eliminate Talbans from northern areas but it caused for the issues of internally displaced persons and the resurgence of terrorists in other areas. Moreover this military operation could not achieve all its strategic objectives. Similarly, national security policy did not address the issues of militancy in Balochistan creating security threats for China Pakistan Economic Corridor. As a matter of fact, despite all the above mentioned security predicaments the successive governments in the past did not enhance their capacity to contextualize the suitable framework for sound policy-making. It seemed that civilian and military leadership remained entangled in prisoner's dilemma in terms of power-assertion. Pakistan's national security had been confined to the traditional indicators of security like border security, preservation of sovereignty and sound foreign policy. Therefore all representative and non-representative institutions lacked to formulate a coherent security policy in the past.

b. Current Political Turmoil in Pakistan Affects its National Security

Last general elections were held in 2018 and PTI (Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf) led coalition government was formed under the leadership of Imran Khan. Since the very beginning civil military leadership remained integrated on fundamental issues like elimination of terrorism, progress in CPEC projects, policy of reaching out from Afghanistan, full-spectrum deterrence against India and balanced relations with major powers. However, certain grave issues like stabilization of economy, Pakistan's inclusion in grey list of Financial Action Task Force (an intergovernmental organization established in 1989 by G7 to combat terror-financing and money-laundering) and economic recession during Covid19 posed a challenging situation for the new government. Prime Minister Imran Khan continued with his well-defined agenda to revive economy, to promote the interest of suppressed classes and rule of law. Meantime the National Security Policy was also presented in 2022 to give a new orientation to defence, security and economy of Pakistan to meet the emerging challenges in post-pandemic world.

On the other hand the opposition forces assumed to create legitimacy crisis against the government while initiating no-confidence motion against Imran Khan. In-house change during April 2022 brought Shahbaz Sharif led PDM (Pakistan Democratic Movement) government. The former Prime Minister Imran Khan

condemned this move and labelled it as regime change operation with external intervention. Consequently, PTI launched a mass movement against PDM (an alliance of 13 political parties) to mobilise general public for the support of their narrative that Pakistan's sovereignty and integrity of elected government were compromised. Anti-American sentiment was also aggravated to aspire the people against corrupt political elite. The establishment (non-representative state institutions i.e. army and judiciary) were held responsible to threaten democratic sustainability in Pakistan. Moreover, the provincial government in Punjab was also destabilized by PDM to contain numerical strength of both parties PTI and PML (Q) largely to revive the strength of PML (N) as the strongest party in Punjab.

Nevertheless, twenty defected members were de-seated by judiciary and by-elections were announced in Punjab. PTI aligned with PML (Q) got landslide victory and re-established their government. Subsequently, the consistent demand for general elections by PTI and delaying tactics by government kept the entire political environment hostile. The populist rhetoric by PTI gained popularity and caused uncertainty for the government. In a similar way, the increasing inflation, pressures from IMF (International Monetary Fund) and massive infrastructural devastation due to heavy floods in August 2022 further embroiled the situation. Imran Khan persistently put pressure on government as well as establishment for holding free and transparent elections for sustainable democratic government to guarantee national security. In a due course of time plenty of protest, demonstrations, and long march were observed by PTI to keep the momentum of their movement for elections. Furthermore, in January 2023 Imran Khan announced to dissolve the provincial assemblies in Punjab and KPK to make possibility for general elections.

The current political turmoil penetrating in the state is not only creating chaos, culture of intolerance, polarization but also institutional confrontation between judiciary and election commission as well as between the office of president and Election Commission of Pakistan. Under these circumstances the political system lacks conducive socio-economic and political conditions for the implementation of national security policy. Moreover, the following data shows pessimistic situation in Pakistan.

Economic indicators in Pakistan	Year 2022
GDP(Gross Domestic Product)	\$376 billion
Per Capita Income	around 40,000/PKR per month
Inflation	20%
Foreign Debt	\$ 69 million
Debt Servicing	\$6.77 billion
Employed Labour Force	67 million
Literacy Ratio	58%
Multidimensional Poverty Ratio	52%

Source: Pakistan Bureau of Statistics 2022.

The growing uncertainty becomes a reason for the prevalence of distrust between state institutions and society. General masses make remonstrations to vent their grievances. Currently civil disobedience movement by PTI shows their disbelief on the legitimacy of the government. In this scenario when state institutions including judiciary, army and other entities like election commission remain less successful to comply with the constitutional guarantees then the trust deficit upon institutions further creates an enigma of politics. The qualitative document analysis of National Security Policy 2022 highlighted that political stability and consensus-building in Pakistan is mandatory to ensure security and national integration. The policymakers need to modify the orientation of institutions and ideological grounds of policies. The world order is reshaped with multi-polarity where security and economic interests of the states are linked with political stability, pluralism and multilateralism.

c. Trend Analyses

This research comprised the data analyses while using Statistical Packages for the Social Sciences to investigate that the issues of political instability posed threats for national security in Pakistan. The hypothesis to be tested was denoted by ‘H1’ (alternative hypothesis) and null hypothesis with ‘H0’. Then ‘N’ (150) is the sample size showing the respondents from different demographic groups including students and teachers related to disciplines of Political Science and International Relations from public and private sector universities in Lahore and media persons. Snow-balling sampling technique was used and number was confined to 150 to avoid the saturation in information. The provincial capital city of Lahore was chosen for survey as it became a hub of political activities after the dissolution of Punjab Assembly in January 2023. Snow balling technique was used to conduct survey. Moreover, ‘df’ indicates degree of freedom and ‘p’ value is set at $p < .01$. Results were derived from Chi-Square.

Table 1: Parameters of National Security Policy

H0: National security policy should not only deal with the border security of Pakistan.

H1: National security policy should only deal with border security of Pakistan.

Opinions	Demographic groups		
	Students	Academia	Media Persons
No	33	30	30
Yes	17	20	20

$P < .01$.

The results reveal that majority of people agreed with comprehensive national security policy comprising all traditional and non-traditional factors to achieve the national interest of state. Result is significant with *df* (2).

Table 2: Formulation of Public Policy in Pakistan

H0: National security policy should not have all-inclusive and bottom up approach in Pakistan.

H1: National security policy should have all-inclusive and bottom up approach in Pakistan.

Opinions	Demographic groups		
	Students	Academia	Media Persons
No	18	15	20
Yes	32	35	30

$P < .01$.

The results focus that majority of people agreed with the wide-ranging approach towards public policy process in Pakistan. Result is significant with $df(2)$.

Table 3: Democratic Sustainability and National Security

H0: Democratic sustainability in the present age of globalization is not significant for national security in Pakistan.

H1: Democratic sustainability in the present age of globalization is significant for national security in Pakistan.

Opinions	Demographic groups		
	Students	Academia	Media Persons
No	17	13	20
Yes	33	37	30

$P < .01$.

The results highlight that majority of people acknowledge democratic sustainability for national security in the present age of globalization. Result is significant with $df(2)$.

Moreover the research assumption and the data derived from survey was also scrutinized through semi-structured interviews from politician and defence analyst. It was a convenient sample comprising two respondents, representing both demographic groups. The rationale behind the sample was to analyse the perceptions of certain significant stakeholders like defence analyst (retired military officer) and politician to retrospect the theme-line of this research.

Analysis of semi-structured interviews:

Themes	Politician (Senator from Punjab)	Defence Analyst
Nature of national security policy.	National security in the modern age of globalization has become a multidimensional phenomenon. It should be composed while considering all regional and global dynamics of state. It must be covering all tangible and intangible elements of power to ensure internal stability and deter external threats.	National security policy 2022 covered maximum areas related to security including land, sea and air space, human security, environmental security, diplomatic relations, socio-economic development and political stability. However it should also extend to derive a framework for consensus-building among mainstream political forces to achieve the objectives of sustainable growth.
Policy-making process in Pakistan.	Public policies in Pakistan are generally formulated to address the issues of selective strata of population, ignoring its implications for the rest of the society. Policies, especially national security policy must envisage all components in the political system of the state to create conducive conditions for consensus and socio-economic progress. Although current security policy was relatively better than the past but still there was a need to have consultation from all stakeholders in Pakistan.	Policy-making process in Pakistan needs to be reformed on the basis of certain important variables like need-assessment, resource-sharing and devolution of powers to ensure public participation and accountability of higher authorities. Policy process must be transparent to strengthen institutions and structural arrangements in a democratic state. Similarly, the identification of problem and solution-oriented approach on the part of state authorities are required. But unluckily, successive governments in the past promoted trends of centralization in terms of policy formulation.
National security and political stability in Pakistan.	Political stability is mandatory condition for national security. Current	National security is closely connected with political stability. Since April 2022

	<p>political turmoil in Pakistan has spoiled the image of our democracy. Political parties are supposed to derive a mechanism to restore democratic sustainability to avoid political unrest.</p>	<p>till present the politics of Pakistan is showing a picture of distrust, political antagonism between ruling parties and PTI, defiance of democratic values, culture of intolerance, dichotomy over the interpretations of constitutional provisions and role of institutions. It's quite distressing to happen in a federal democracy. All political forces in Pakistan need to develop mutual understanding on rational grounds.</p>
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Conclusion

This study concludes that public policy process in a democratic state consists of various stages right from the identification of problem and consultation to the formulation and implementation of policies. Similarly national security policy in the present age substantiates multiple factors both traditional and non-traditional. However, political stability provides sound basis for reasonable policy process. Pakistan needs stable political system to safeguard national security because renunciation of democratic values hampers smooth policy-process. Now a days Pakistan is undergoing paradox of politics, creating uncertainties, mistrust on political parties and economic slowdown. The national security of Pakistan lies in consensus-building among all political forces to keep with constitution and democratic sustainability.

Notes and References

¹ NSC was recreated by Former General Pervez Musharraf in 2004. Initially it was founded in 1969 by President Yahya Khan.

² The President regains the authority to dissolve the National Assembly - and thus effectively to dismiss the Pakistani Prime Minister - but the power to do so is made subject to an approval or veto by the Supreme Court of Pakistan.

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