



CUTS International *Global Affairs*

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Uproot Terrorism, Once And For All

Terrorism is terrorism is terrorism. Peace and security are global public goods.

Has the global community forgotten such truisms amidst terrorist activities of all hue and cry? It is true they are not contemporary. Also, it is a well-established fact that the world has witnessed plenty of examples of prosperity after eschewing violence.

Tautological as it may sound, Europe, Southeast Asia stand out as examples. Parts of central India, which used to be affected by Left Wing extremism, have started experiencing green shoots of prosperity through peace.

It is in this perspective one should look at the recent terror incidence in Kashmir. Yes, incidence as innocent lives were lost. However, with an important difference. While almost all terror activities in the rest of the world are largely the handiwork of non-state actors, in this case it is state-sponsored. No prizes for guessing! Pakistan, whose army is the only one of its kind in the world which has a State. Unequivocal is an understatement.

Since the defeat of the two-nation theory in east Pakistan in 1971, keeping India engaged in asymmetric war-like situations is a part of its official security doctrine. From time to time, it rears its ugly head through manifestation of its “thousand cuts” policy so that India bleeds. This is particularly when the Pakistani deep state, comprising army generals and their cahoots, experience reduced control over national resources. No other country in the world has this peculiarity. Whose security, is it?

Is there a way forward? The global community must find a way without showing phobia against any religion. Paraphrasing India’s ancient thought-leader from 300 BCE, Chanakya (Kautilya) – there is no point using axes in clearing shrubs harming you; a better way forward is applying a mix of Saama (be pacifying), Daana (be charitable), Danda (punish) and Bheda (divide) to uproot them. In other words, deterrence is a short-term measure at best and not a solution.

Therefore, it is time to follow a two-pronged approach. First, there should strong political backing on the part of all countries to the Quaker United Nations Office, the World Assembly of Religions for Peace and the newly established New Delhi-based World First so that they work together relentlessly to spread the message of prosperity through peace and harmony.

Secondly, countries should come together to impose strictly enforceable economic and social sanctions against perpetrators of terror, including against those who act as enablers. The Financial Action Task Force should be much more than just a talk-shop and show visible action.

Otherwise, we, the people of this world, will remain innocent bystanders as fodder for terrorists. A happy state? Certainly not!

Pradeep S. Mehta
Editor

P.S.: India and the U.S. and also the UK are negotiating a bilateral trade agreement, which should include a totalisation clause; that is to say, social security deductions of Indian emigrant workers in the U.S. and

the UK should be repatriated to their home country at the end of their tenure. This amount runs into billions of dollars and pounds.

Message for our Readers

This is the eighty-sixth edition of the Monthly Brief from the Centre, which carries select published news or comments on a relevant issue. There are equally important issues which may have been missed out to keep the Monthly Brief short and swiftly readable.

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How Far Will the U.S.-China Trade War Go?

President Trump escalated tariffs on China to 145 percent, prompting 125 percent retaliation from Beijing. Talks remain stalled, with both economies suffering. US exports, especially soya beans, and imports like electronics face major disruption. China, meanwhile, is diversifying. Allies resist Trump's push to isolate China. His approval ratings are falling sharply.



- [Defending the multilateral trading system: Survey findings on WTO reform](#) | Bloomberg
- [Secretary-General Gynspan urges G20 to help stabilize trade and protect vulnerable economies](#) | UNCTAD
- [Trump's tariffs also threaten US innovation](#) | Technology Policy Institute
- [Up to 3,521% tariff: US imposes new duties on solar imports from Southeast Asia](#) | Gulf News
- [Trump tariffs ironically cast spotlight on Beijing-led free trade](#) | Nikkei Asia
- [Apple fined \\$570 million and Meta \\$228 million for breach of EU law](#) | The Hindu



Donald Trump's first 100 days: America First president is overturning world order

Donald Trump's second term has sparked global unease with his "America First" agenda, marked by tariff wars, strained alliances, and expansionist rhetoric. These actions have prompted allies to reconsider their reliance on the U.S., potentially leading to shifts in defense strategies and economic partnerships.



- [Against US tariff hand, EU holds 'lot of cards'](#) | Economic Times
 - [ICYMI: Celebrating President Trump's Incredible First 100 Days](#) | The White House
 - [Exclusive: Inside Trump's First 100 days](#) | TIME
 - [First 100 days of the second Donald Trump presidency](#) | Wikipedia
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Strategic Issues



India and Pakistan could come to blows over Kashmir

The alpine meadows and pine forests of Pahalgam have long been a lure for visitors to the Indian region of Jammu & Kashmir. They called it "mini-Switzerland" and came in greater numbers lately as India's government hailed a downturn in militant violence in the region. Yet on April 22nd, at least 26 people were killed and 17 injured after gunmen opened fire on tourists in Pahalgam. It was the deadliest attack since 2019 in the Muslim-majority region, which is claimed in full but ruled in part by both India and Pakistan.



- [Trump Lashes Out at Powell, Says 'Termination Cannot Come Fast Enough'](#) | The Wall Street Journal
- [Trump spurs doubts over Australia's \\$234bn nuclear submarine plan](#) | Nikkei Asia
- [Trump's Ukraine retreat fuels South Korea nuclear arms debate](#) | Nikkei Asia

- [The world order is in flux. Multipolarity, based on equitable principles, is needed](#) | Indian Express
 - [The groundwork before India mounts a strike at Pakistan](#) | Economic Times
 - [India-Pak ties go from low plateau into deep abyss](#) | Times of India
 - [Pak says diverting Indus water 'act of war', suspends Simla pact](#) | Times of India
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The World Bank Spring Meetings go quiet on climate

At the World Bank and IMF Spring Meetings, climate change receded from focus amid U.S. pressure, despite President Bonga's quiet push for climate-aligned development. Brazil advanced its forest fund plans, and debates continued over Mission 300, nuclear energy, and debt reform, with many initiatives proceeding without U.S. leadership.



- [To the ends of the Earth: The Arctic's battle for sustainable tourism](#) | Reuters
 - [EU faces internal split as Finland supports reducing emissions 90% by 2040](#) | The News International
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A grim week: Pahalgam Adds Yet Another Layer Of Uncertainty To Trumpian Woes

A deadly terror attack in Pahalgam, political tensions, and economic uncertainty marked a grim week. India blames Pakistan, while global markets reel from Trump's erratic tariff policy. China resists US pressure, advancing in EV tech. Ongoing conflicts in Ukraine, Gaza, and Yemen deepen global instability, overshadowing domestic and international diplomacy.



- [J.D. Vance flies into a giant trade storm in India](#) | The Economist
- [After Canada, the anti-Trump backlash moves to Australia](#) | The Washington Post
- [China and Kenya strengthen ties amid global turmoil](#) | Business Insider Africa
- [Countries Face Pressure to Pick Sides in U.S.-China Trade War](#) | Foreign Policy
- [Former president Kovind calls IMEC bridge between civilisations](#) | Economic Times
- [Saudi Arabia and Qatar to pay back Syria's debt to the World Bank](#) | AP News
- [China-Egypt ties reach new heights with joint air exercises](#) | Nikkei Asia



Trump's incoherent trade policy will do lasting damage

After the terror, the euphoria. When, on April 9th, President Donald Trump postponed for 90 days the most illogical and destructive of his tariffs, after a meltdown in financial markets, the S&P 500 index of American stocks rose by 9.5 percent, its fastest daily rise in nearly 17 years. The darkest scenarios for the world economy that had been envisaged by investors until that moment are now unlikely.



- [Martin Wolf Warns: Trump's Tariffs Threaten Global Economic Stability!](#) | Business Today
- [The dollar has further to fall](#) | Financial Times
- [Enhancing Financial Stability for Resilience During Uncertain Times](#) | IMF
- [India's Economic Strategy must keep the Big Picture in Mind](#) | LiveMint
- [C. Peter McColough Series on International Economics With Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala](#) | CFR
- [China to go hunting for more markets](#) | Economic Times
- [Japan to resist Trump efforts to form trade bloc against China](#) | Japan Times



How the global south forgot its birthday

In many ways, it should be a golden moment for the global south. The world is in turmoil as America seems all too willing to resign from its job as global hegemon. Why, then, has the 70th anniversary of the Conference of Afro-Asian Solidarity—known as the Bandung conference—not been officially celebrated? It passed with barely a squeak. The 60th-anniversary gathering in 2015, held in Bandung in Indonesia, attracted delegations from half the world and even denounced the “obsolete” world order.



- [The Pandemic Agreement is here](#) | Medicines Law and Policy