

Asfandyar Ali Mir

RESEARCH International Relations of South Asia, US Counterterrorism Policy, US Foreign Policy towards South Asia, Al-Qaeda, Politics on Social Media; Regions: Afghanistan, India, Pakistan

APPOINTMENTS **United States Institute of Peace**
Senior Expert, August 2021 - Present

Stanford University

Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Fall 2021
Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation, 2019 - 2021
Postdoctoral Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation, 2018 - 2019
Predoctoral Fellow, Center for International Security and Cooperation, 2017 - 2018

EDUCATION **University of Chicago**
Ph.D., Political Science, 2013 - 2018

Stanford University

M.A., International Policy, 2013
B.A., Economics, 2012

RESEARCH PAPERS Assessing Al-Qaeda: A Debate. With Daniel Byman. Forthcoming. **Studies of Conflict and Terrorism**

Political Coalitions and Social Media: Evidence from Pakistan. With Tamar Mitts and Paul Staniland. Conditionally Accepted. **Perspectives on Politics**

Drones, Surveillance, and Violence: Theory and Evidence from a US Drone Program. With Dylan Moore. 2019. **International Studies Quarterly** 63 (4), 846-862.

What Explains Counterterrorism Effectiveness? Evidence from the U.S. Drone War in Pakistan. 2018. **International Security** 43 (2), 45-83.

Politics and Threat Perception: Explaining Pakistani Military Strategy on the North West Frontier. With Paul Staniland and Sameer Lalwani. 2018. **Security Studies** 27 (4), 535-574.

POLICY ANALYSIS Imran Khan dissolved Pakistans parliament. How did that happen? With Yasser Kureshi. April 5, 2022. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

On the Pakistani Taliban and Afghanistan-Pakistan Border Tensions. February 15, 2022. **USIP**.

After the Taliban's Takeover: Pakistan's TTP Problem. January 19, 2022. **USIP**.

Taliban Seek Recognition, But Offer Few Concessions to International Concerns. September 28, 2021. **USIP**.

What Does IS-K's Resurgence Mean for Afghanistan and Beyond? September 21, 2021. **USIP**.

Twenty Years After 9/11: The Terror Threat from Afghanistan Post the Taliban Takeover. September 2021. **CTC Sentinel**.

Biden Didn't See the ISIS-K Threat in Afghanistan Until Too Late. August 31, 2021. **The New York Times**.

The Return Of The Islamic Emirate Of Afghanistan: A Conversation With Asfandiyar Mir. August 25, 2021. **The Caravan, Hoover Institute**.

Untying the Gordian Knot: Why the Taliban is unlikely to break ties with al-Qaeda. August 10, 2021. **Modern War Institute**.

Five things to watch as the U.S. prepares to exit Afghanistan. April 26, 2021. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

Biden Announces U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan. April 15, 2021. **Warcast, War on the Rocks**.

Biden's Expensive New Problem in Afghanistan. With Colin P Clarke. April 15, 2021. **Politico Magazine**.

Making Sense of Iran and Al-Qaeda's Relationship. With Colin P Clarke. March 21, 2021. **Lawfare**.

Biden's Afghanistan Decision. March 17, 2021. **Political Violence at a Glance**.

Q&A: The elephant in the room - what is the future of al-Qaida in Afghanistan? November 5, 2020. **Quincy Institute**.

What will America's commitment to Afghanistan look like after the election? November 1, 2020. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

Afghanistan's Terrorism Challenge: The Political Trajectories of al-Qaeda, the Afghan Taliban, and the Islamic State. October 2020. **Middle East Institute**.

Al Qaeda's Leader Is Old, Bumbling—and a Terrorist Mastermind. With Colin P Clarke. September 10, 2020. **Foreign Policy**.

Al Qaeda's Franchise Reboot. With Colin P Clarke. September 9, 2020. **Foreign Affairs**.

Why didn't the U.S. rebuke Russia for its Taliban bounty deal? Four things to know. July 1, 2020. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

With two American soldiers dead in Iraq, how will the U.S. respond? With Ramzy Mardini. March 12, 2020. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

The U.S. may be close to a peace deal in Afghanistan. Here are 3 big takeaways. February 20, 2020. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

What we learned from the Afghanistan papers. December 11, 2019. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

Al-Qaeda's continuing challenge to the United States. September 8, 2019. **Lawfare**.

The international politics of the Kashmir crisis. September 3, 2019. **H-Diplo/ISSF**.

Here's how India's decision to cut Kashmir's autonomy will affect South Asia - and the world. August 9, 2019. **Washington Post Monkey Cage**.

Pakistan's leader Imran Khan meets President Trump this week. Here's what to expect. July 22, 2019. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

Why India and Pakistan are fighting again – and the risks that remain. March 7, 2019. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

The Kashmir attack could prompt a crisis in South Asia. Here's why. February 15, 2019. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

U.S. troop drawdown in Afghanistan raises big questions. December 23, 2018. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

The U.S. Drone War in Pakistan Revisited. November 11, 2018. **Lawfare**.

What just happened in Pakistan's elections? And what happens next? July 26, 2018. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

Afghanistan's road to peace won't be an easy one. March 30, 2018. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

Will U.S. threats to Pakistan help crack down on terrorism? Not really. With Paul Staniland. January 5, 2018. **Washington Post** Monkey Cage.

Drones in Counterterrorism: The Primacy of Politics Over Technology. December 14, 2017. **The Strategy Bridge**.

IN PROGRESS
RESEARCH

Book Project: Counterterrorism, Technology, and Civilians.

Does Nationalism Affect Belief in Misinformation? With Niloufer Siddiqui. (Draft available on request)

NatSec Fieldwork. (Draft available on request)

When an Insurgency Wins: Social Media Data from Afghanistan. With Tamar Mitts.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Arab News, AlAan TV, Al-Jazeera, American Conservative, Asia Times Online, Associated Press, BBC, BBC Urdu, China Global TV Network, CNN, Christian Science Monitor, Dawn, Diplomat, Daily Pravda, El Mundo, Express Tribune, Financial Times, Foreign Policy, La Croix, LA Times, Middle East Eye, NBC, New York Times, Nikkei Asian Review, NPR, Gandhara/Radio Free Europe, Global News, Reuters, Samaa TV, South China Morning Post, Stars and Stripes, Talk Media, The National, The News, The Hill, TRT World, Voice of America, Wall Street Journal, Washington Examiner, Washington Times

SELECT
PRESENTATIONS

Global Terrorism Trends and Analysis Center, 2022.

Political Violence Workshop, American University, 2022.

Escola de Comando e Estado-Maior do Exrcito, 2021.

Foreign Service Institute, US Department of State, 2021. (x4)

Peace in Afghanistan, Shorenstein Asia-Pacific Research Center, Stanford University, 2021.

UCLA Big Data and Politics Seminar, UCLA, 2021.

Ceasing Fire, The Diplomat, 2021.

The Guns Fall Silent, Tabadlab, 2021.

New Trends in Terrorism and U.S. Counter Terrorism Strategy, McColm & Company, 2021.

The Future of Overseas Counter Terrorism Conference, Oxford University, 2021.

SAIS, John Hopkins University, 2021.

Lessons for Afghanistan: Comparing Peace Processes, McColm & Company, 2021.

Future of US Policy in Afghanistan, Los Angeles World Affairs Council, 2021.

CISAC Social Science Seminar, Stanford University, 2020.
US-Pakistan Counterterrorism Cooperation Beyond Afghanistan, Quincy Institute, 2020.
Department of Political Science, MIT, 2019.
Department of Political Science, University of Miami, 2018.
Schar School of Public Policy, George Mason University, 2018.
Symposium on Micro-Dynamics of Conflicts, Institut Barcelona d'Estudis Internacionals, 2018.
Annual Indian Security Studies Workshop, University of Pennsylvania, 2018.
CISAC Social Science Seminar, Stanford University, 2018.
Department of Political Science, Yale University, 2017.
Harvard International Security Conference, Harvard University, 2017.
ESOC Lab Meeting, Princeton University, 2017.
Program on International Political Economy and Security, University of Chicago, 2017.
Seminar on US Counterterrorism Efficacy, Stimson Center, 2017.
Program of International Security Policy, University of Chicago, 2016.
6SF Forum, Agha Khan University, 2016.
Comparative Politics Workshop, University of Chicago, 2015.
Program of International Security Policy, University of Chicago, 2015.

CONFERENCES ISA Meeting, 2022 (Presenter); APSA Meeting, 2021 (Presenter); APSA Meeting, 2020 (Presenter, Discussant); ISA Meeting, 2020 (Presenter, Discussant); APSA Meeting, 2019 (Presenter); APSA Meeting, 2018 (Presenter, Discussant); ISA Meeting, 2018 (Presenter); APSA Meeting, 2017 (Presenter, Organizer); ISA Meeting, 2017 (Presenter); APSA Meeting, 2015 (Presenter).

FELLOWSHIPS, HONORS, AND GRANTS Grant: Misinformation in South Asia, USIP, 2020. With Niloufer Siddiqui.
CISAC Postdoctoral Teaching Fellowship, Stanford University, 2019 - 2021.
CISAC Social Science Postdoctoral Fellowship, Stanford University, 2018 - 2019.
The Pearson Institute Research Grant, 2018.
CISAC Social Science Predoctoral Fellowship, Stanford University, 2017 - 2018.
COSAS Dissertation Research Grant, University of Chicago, 2017.
Orin Williams Fund, Dissertation Research Grant, University of Chicago, 2017.
The Pearson Institute Research Grant, 2017.
Nicholson Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2016.
COSAS Student Archival and Research Grant, University of Chicago, 2016.
Orin Williams Fund, Dissertation Research Grant, University of Chicago, 2016.
UChicago Grad Travel Grant, University of Chicago, 2016.
COSAS Student Archival and Research Grant, University of Chicago, 2016.
Social Science Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2013 - 2018.
Ford Dorsey International Policy Studies Fellowship, Stanford University, 2012 - 2013.
Stanford Fund Scholarship, 2008 - 2012

ACADEMIC SERVICE Editorial Board: *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*

Reviewer: *American Political Science Review*, *American Journal of Political Science*, *Asian Security*, *Columbia University Press*, *European Journal of International Security*, *International Security*, *International Studies Quarterly*, *Journal of Conflict Resolution*, *Journal of Peace Research*, *Journal of Politics*, *Political Science Quarterly*, *Routledge*, *Security Studies*, *Studies in Conflict and Terrorism*, *Terrorism and Political Violence*

TEACHING Intro to IR, Stanford University, Fall 2021
Politics of Insurgency, Terrorism and Civil War, Stanford University, Fall 2021
Instructor, CISAC Honors Program, Stanford University, 2019 - 2021

TRAINING Summer Workshop in Analysis of Military Operations, Cornell University, 2017