



## **“Bridging Borders: An In-Depth Exploration of Pakistan’s Role in Regional Security through the SCO”**

Dr. Waseem Ullah<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Saima Razzaq Khan<sup>2</sup>, Dr. Imran Ullah Khan Marwat<sup>3</sup>, Dr. Muhammad Umar<sup>4</sup> &  
Dr. Asif Salim<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Lakki Marwat, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [waseem@ulm.edu.pk](mailto:waseem@ulm.edu.pk)

<sup>2</sup> Lecturer, Department of Political Science, Gomal University, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [dr.saima\\_razzaq@gu.edu.pk](mailto:dr.saima_razzaq@gu.edu.pk)

<sup>3</sup> Director, Quality Assurance (HED), Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Peshawar, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [imranmarwat@gmail.com](mailto:imranmarwat@gmail.com)

<sup>4</sup> Assistant Professor at the Department of History and Politics, University of Haripur, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [m.umar@uoh.edu.pk](mailto:m.umar@uoh.edu.pk)

<sup>5</sup> Assistant Professor, HOD at Department of Political Science, Bacha Khan University Charsada, KP, Pakistan.

Email: [drasifsalim@bkuc.edu.pk](mailto:drasifsalim@bkuc.edu.pk)

### **Abstract**

*The focus of this research paper is to establish Pakistan’s security contributions in the region by analyzing its interaction with the SCO. It was created in 2001 and has transformed into an important format of regional multilateral cooperation in the sphere of security and in various fields of economic and cultural ties. After joining the SCO in 2017, Pakistan has aimed to boost its power in Central Asia and; dealing with major security issues internally and regionally. counter-terrorism and preventing extremism is one of the paramount security areas in the SCO, this paper aims at analyzing Pakistan’s involvement in these issues. As terrorism and violent extremism are nowadays universal problems, the SCO’s Regional Antiterrorist Structure (RATS) offered a format of cooperation and information exchange for combined actions of its members. This paper will analyse how Pakistan has been involved in RATS and participated in counter terrorism efforts in the region. Besides, the paper shall also examine how Pakistan’s participation in the SCO affects stability of Central Asia. This study will employ qualitative method of data collection and analysis as well as secondary materials to reveal the areas that Pakistan finds difficult to implement the agreed SCO framework, political and hostile relation with India to name but a few, internal security. In conclusion, the paper will put forward suggestions to promote the position of Pakistan in the SCO, with particular emphasis on cooperation in the exchange of intelligence and partner states with the Central Asian countries. In conclusion, the presented research adds to the explanation of the security processes in Central Asia with regard to Pakistan’s interactions within the SCO framework.*

### **Keywords**

Pakistan, Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), Regional Security, Counter-Terrorism, Central Asia, Extremism

### **Introduction**

Contemporary world security scenario is incomplete without mention of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) which was created in 2001 for the purpose of collective negotiation in various fields but principally dedicated to security, economic cooperation and exchange of culture. Now including eight members – China, Russia, India, Pakistan, and several Central Asian countries – SCO was formed with a view to counter shared threats, ensure security and foster economic cooperation.

This is specifically based on dynamism that characterized affairs of states within the global arena demanding enhanced contributions from regional bodies such as the SCO dictated by current threats such as terrorism, extremism, and competition within geopolitics (Fazal & Khan, 2020).

The most defining point for the SCO was probably when Pakistan formally became a full member of the organization in June 2017. This membership was thought out for Pakistan as it showed the country’s desire to increase its regional power and security presence in the Central Asian region which is known for its hybrid insecurity nature (Waseem, 2022). The role of Pakistan is quite significant in geopolitical terms by virtue of its location as a linkage state between South and the Central Asia. This distinct niche positions Pakistan in a very strategic position to help in promoting cooperation and engaging emerging security threats within the SCO region (Ullah, 2023).

### **Research Questions**

This paper will therefore seek to answer the following question:

1. How has Pakistan role in the SCO influenced the security landscape in Central Asia?
2. That leaves us with the question: what function does Pakistan have within the SCO’s counter-terrorism and extremism prevention work?
3. What are the set-backs that Pakistan has in the process of meeting its security obligations within the SCO?

### **Aims and Objectives**

1. In order to critically evaluate the Pakistani contributions towards the security evolution of the SCO.
2. To analyze the efficiency of actions being taken by Pakistan to counter terrorism in relation to the SCO format.
3. In order to outline roles and missions of the SCO member states and in particular a role and mission of Pakistan it is needed to define main vices and strengths.

### **Research Methodology**

This section will present information regarding qualitative research method used in this research. It shall narrate how secondary data: academic journals, government and the SCO documents were used to establish the role of Pakistan in the organization. The methodology will also describe how Pakistan’s membership to the SCO affects regional security by using cases of Central Asia security initiatives. The predominantly chosen method of the analysis will be the qualitative content analysis according to the procedure of a critical interpretation of the materials. This section will also explain limitations to the research, for example on the information available for some SCO operations.

### **Significance of the Study**

The analytical intent of this research is to fill the gap in the existing literature by determining whether Pakistan has benefited the SCO in the way it has enhanced regional security, especially in Central Asia. This is a research which has intended to enlighten on role of Pakistan in counter-terrorism and extremism prevention. The study is useful as it demonstrates that despite the internal security issues Pakistan can contribute to the stabilization of the wider Central Asian area. This study enriches the knowledge of regional security regimes and the particular role of multilateral organizations such as the SCO when describing Pakistan’s participation in the SCO.

### **Overview of the SCO and Its Primary Objectives**

Pakistan's foreign policy landscape is pivotal in navigating its strategic and economic interests on the global stage. The significance of defining foreign policy priorities lies in the need to chart a coherent and effective course of action that advances national interests while fostering regional and international cooperation (Ullah, Bashir and Khurshid, 2024). The SCO was created in order to eventually form a more balanced system of relationships by uniting the countries within the organization. Some of the presumed cores of the organization include; ensuring stability within the region, counter-terrorism and enhancing economic relations within the member states (Mehmood, 2022). Originally established primarily in response to the threats from the so-called ‘Three Evils’ of terrorism, extremism, and separatism in Central Asia, the organisation has widened its agenda to cover also the economic and cultural aspects of cooperation. The SCO in recent years has stressed integration as the way to improve overall economic stability in the region. The organization fosters partnerships on diverse projects in various areas such as trade, transport, power among others. In terms of economic cooperation, SCO seeks to decrease tensions and bring about change throughout Central Asia and beyond (Dar, 2023). However, it is still the SCO’s main purpose to strengthen the

security cooperation in this area. The organisation has put in place intelligence sharing, exercise cooperation, and counter terrorism particularly through its Regional Antiterrorist Structure. RATS is the union’s tool for fighting terrorism and extremism, with its members providing each other with information and examples of practices that can be used to fight the common problem (Khan, 2022).

**Pakistan's Role in Fighting Terrorism and Extremism**

Participation of Pakistan in the SCO is especially meaningful taking this country’s challenges in battling terrorism and extremism. The country faces gigantic inconveniences not adjusted to the Internal and External security (Ullah, Rasool, & Salim, 2016). The country has suffered from so many headaches of the militants within its territories and within the region in general. Terrorism has continued to increase in Pakistan and it is has been understood to be tied closer to the regional factors such as insecurity in Afghanistan (Bashir, 2021). Being a part of the SCO, Pakistan has aimed at using its advantage to counter these security threats. The country has also been involved in the various processes spearheaded by the organization in the fight against terrorism, and enhancing stability. With the help of RATS, Pakistan has been involved in sharing intelligence and exchange training for improvement of collective capabilities in threats posed by the extremists (Saleem, 2022). However, due to the membership of Pakistan in SCO, it can consult its partners regarding the strategies for fighting terrorism in the region. This sort of cooperation is particularly needed in Pakistan to counter many organizations that are extending their activities beyond its borders. This clearly signals that when Pakistan adopted an accommodating approach toward the Central Asian nations, it can effectively improve the regional security structures and at the same time contribute to fight against terrorism (Akhtar, 2022).

**Pakistan’s Role in Combating Terrorism and Extremism:** The following table indicates different measures that Pakistan has taken in the fight against terrorism such as sharing of intelligence, training and joining the SCO’s Regional Anti-Terrorism Structure (RATS).

<b>Initiatives</b>	<b>Description</b>
Intelligence Sharing	Enhancing information exchange among SCO member states.
Joint Training Exercises	Conducting military training programs with SCO partners.
Participation in RATS	Active involvement in the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure.
Collaborative Counter-Terrorism Strategies	Working with Central Asian nations to develop comprehensive strategies.
Regional Security Dialogues	Engaging in multilateral discussions on security issues.

**Table 1:** Pakistan’s Role in Combating Terrorism and Extremism

**How Pakistan’s Security Interests align with the Goals of the SCO**

Pakistan’s security concerns are well served by the SCO as its objectives. The organization aims at maintaining stability in central Asia a goal that is well understood by Pakistan since it has perceived security threats. Terrorism challenges, drug business, and instability in the region are what Pakistan wants to avoid as the cooperation with the Central Asian countries is increased (Mansoor, 2023). Currently, the main aspects of the SCO activity are counter-terrorism and economic cooperation, which meets the interests of Pakistan. The country considers it very essential to develop a secure Central Asia since it shares historical and cultural relations with many of the Central Asian states. Building and enhancing these relations can create cooperation and improve business growth which in turn enhances stability in this region (Waseem, 2022).

Further, it has its internal issues with regard to regional security well-being anchored on their long-standing conflict with India. Ongoing political rivalry between India and Pakistan especially over the issue of Kashmir and many others has fuelled Pakistan’s requirement for robust defense relations within the SCO. The Pakistan’s diplomacy could be strengthened by engaging with more countries such as Russia or China, and thus the appearances of India can be addressed properly.

**How Pakistan’s Security Interests align with the Goals of the SCO:** The following table reveals that most of the goals of SCO including provision of security in the region, fighting against terrorism are in the interest of Pakistan.

<b>Goals of SCO</b>	<b>Pakistan’s Interests</b>
Regional Stability	Promoting peace in Central Asia.
Counter-Terrorism	Mitigating terrorism threats.
Economic Cooperation	Enhancing trade relations with Central Asian countries.
Cultural Exchange	Strengthening cultural ties through cooperation.
Drug Trafficking Prevention	Combating drug-related crime affecting national security.

**Table 2:** How Pakistan’s Security Interests align with the Goals of the SCO

**The Importance of Central Asia in Regional Security**

Central Asia has special importance in the context of the regional security. There are also abundant natural resource especially oil and gas and this makes the region to be a key area of focus for energy cooperation among the SCO member countries (Tariq, 2022). In addition, Central Asia’s geographical characteristics play important roles; it is a strategic transit point for Europe to Asia. Iran classified concerns hailing from Central Asia as regional security issues with potential spillovers into other continent regions like South Asia. Because of unresolved conflicts and undermining performances of certain hostile groups in Afghanistan, security threat remains to be a problem and issues in the Central Asia states and other interconnected regions. Understanding this symbiotic relationship, the SCO has focused on increasing security coordination, and combating the sources of insecurity in the region (Raza, 2023).

Due to its location at the crossroads of South and Central Asia, Pakistan continues to play a pivotal role in ensuring security in the region as well. The country may contribute to the role of transit in trade and energy between SCO members and in the development of successful economic relations. In United States Administrations, Pakistan can play an important of in enhancing political relations with countries of Central Asia to support improved regional safety and economic development (Ullah, 2023).

**Pakistan’s Locational Advantage as a Transit Country between South and Central Asia**

Being in the middle of the South Asia and Central Asia, which are important regions of the modern world, Pakistan has much to do in matters of security and cooperation. It has borders with India, Afghanistan, Iran, and China, it makes it as one of the vital outlet to trade and energy needs (Dar, 2023). For instance, China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, a key framework of China’s Belt and Road Initiative makes Pakistan an important connector between regions. CPEC’s main objective is to increase connectivity and infrastructural evolution; where Gwadar ports situated in Pakistan is connected to China’s Xinjiang. This project not only helps in the growth of the economy of Pakistan but the relations with the Central Asian countries also get closer as it enhances the marketing as well as the resource facilities (Mansoor, 2023). Thus, participation in the SCO, for Pakistan gives it a chance to interact with the Central Asian countries on the security, economic, as well as cultural level. Thanks to its advantageous geographic position, Pakistan can serve as a link helping the international community provide the Central Asian states with support that would enhance the process of post-war recovery.

**History of Regional Security Threats of Pakistan**

The security threats in Pakistan’s region have long history which include Geopolitical factors, territorial issues and internal conflict. Pakistan has had many security challenges since its creation in 1947; these are wars with India, insurgencies and emergence of so-called terrorism (Fazal & Khan, 2020). The terrorism issue has been a major cause of the tension between Pakistan and India and the stability of the region have been affected as well. Also, Afghanistan is the historic concern for Pakistan’s security circumstance. Efforts to expel the Soviets in 1979, and later conflicts in Afghanistan that have affected Pakistan has caused the establishment, growth and nurture of militants and refugee influx in Pakistan (Waseem 2022).

Pakistan’s security issues however were compounded after the events of 9/11 when the country joined the US led war on terror. Domestic insurgencies such as the emergence of the Taliban as well as the notorious Al-Qaeda organization worsened the security position much more in the country. Here the challenges are require overall policy, these challenges make Pakistan search regional organizations such as SCO (Bashir, 2021).

**What has bent Pakistan to Join SCO?**

There are some reasons explained the policy of Pakistan for active participation in the SCO. This is particularly the case given the rising threat of terrorism with extreme groups being on the rampage throughout the world. This is the reason why through its interactions with the Central Asian countries, Pakistan wants to enhance more of its counter-terrorism capabilities and go to the source of the problem. Furthermore, the membership of Pakistan in the SCO depicts its intention to enhance more economical relation with countries of Central Asia. Both trade and energy cooperation represent great possibilities for the regeneration of the Pakistan’s economy. Such relationships can assist the country to reduce its existing economic problems and also improve its position within the region (Ali, 2021).

However, the Pakistani membership of the SCO is correlated with its other foreign policy goals of diversification of relationship and lesser reliance on any one actor. The current participation in the SCO for Pakistan can be viewed from the perspective of the country's security and economic needs. Involvement with multiple powers such as China and Russia can make Pakistan a more strategic player to manipulate the card which is SCO for the betterment of the nation's priorities (Raza, 2023).

### **Challenges faced by Pakistan**

This section will elaborate various immense difficulties which exist in front of Pakistan regarding its suitable functioning and productivity in SCO. While gaining membership of any regional organization adds some values, particularly when it lies on the strategic position that benefits the goal of the specific organization, several geopolitical, economic and internal factors prevent Pakistan from contributing to goal of SCO in the following ways:

### **Geopolitical Tensions**

The most significant of obstacles which Pakistan experiences within the framework of SCO is such a historical and ongoing conflict between the states as India. They are both members of the SCO but given the hostile relations between the two countries any form of regional integration has been affected. The most serious outstanding bilateral issue has been the territory of Kashmir; the two countries have fought wars over the area and are currently locked in military confrontation over the territory line insisting on the side they occupy is rightfully theirs (Saeed & Nawaz, 2021). The focus of exercises in SCO is counter-terrorism, however, Pakistan feels threatened and endangered by such collaboration of India. For instance, India's attempts to portray Pakistan as a state actor involved in terrorism has differed greatly within the context of the organization and have hindered discussion and cooperation (Shaikh, 2021). This animosity not only affects relations between the two nations and accordingly, their ability to conduct direct cooperation but also produces the atmosphere of distrust within the SCO member states. Therefore, Pakistan is restricted in its capacity to participate in the security umbrella of SCO especially in the fight against terrorism and extremism.

Also, the increased Indian presence in Central Asia combined with multicultural diplomatic relations between India on one side with Russia and United States on the other side complicates Pakistani strategic equations. India has been involved in the CAs markets and has tried to find its ways to ingress through infrastructural and energy projects that is considered by Pakistan as attempt of encircling it (Khan, 2022). This geopolitical factor reduces the SCO's possibilities for integration as Pakistan being the SCO member sees India as a potential threat.

### **Resource Constraints**

This is because Pakistan's financial and military capacities impose a clear constraint on its ability to meet the organisational roles and obligations enshrined within the SCO's broad security remit. The country has persistent key macroeconomic issues which include; a high level of indebtedness, high inflation rates, and balance of payment difficulties. These challenges limit its capacity to invest sufficiently in its military and security needs that are crucial to a proper engagement of the SCO initiatives. The Pakistani military is certainly professional but it is hard pressed fighting terrorism within the country and the standoff with India. Des analysts of Pakistan believe that due to financial constraints, defence budget has been cut down and it has affected the modern and efficient instruments for Pakistan's armed forces (Mansoor, 2023). As such, it hamper this nation's capacity to participate in various search for peace and cooperation drills and other associated security cooperation endeavours expected under the SCO strategic partnership architecture.

However, the fact is that the country is highly dependent on foreign aid and assistance in this context which adds to its resources problem. A cyclical and uncertain international support, especially from the United States of America, has posed a challenge in strategic prospects in Pakistan. The enacted security threats and coupled with the fact that any cut in military or economic aid coming from outside the country can put the securities of Pakistan into turmoil as well as its participation in SCO.

### **Internal Security Issues**

Internal security threats worsen Pakistan's capacity to provide security to the SCO region. Terrorism in this country has taken different dimensions in the past decades in the form of sectarian terrorism, ethnic terrorism and militant terrorism. Recurring security threats have emerged from groups of Tehrik-i-Taliban Pakistan (TTP) and the various Baloch separatist movements (Bashir, 2021). These

domestic issues take lots of resources and attention of the government and yet do not allow the country to engage much in international matters. Again internally instability through terrorism is not only permanent but has greatly impacted its external dimensions to issues like participating in Regional bodies such as the SCO. For instance, Pakistan that urgently requires internal focusing on counterterrorism measures may be constrained by the SCO's more extensive security activities (Waseem, 2022).

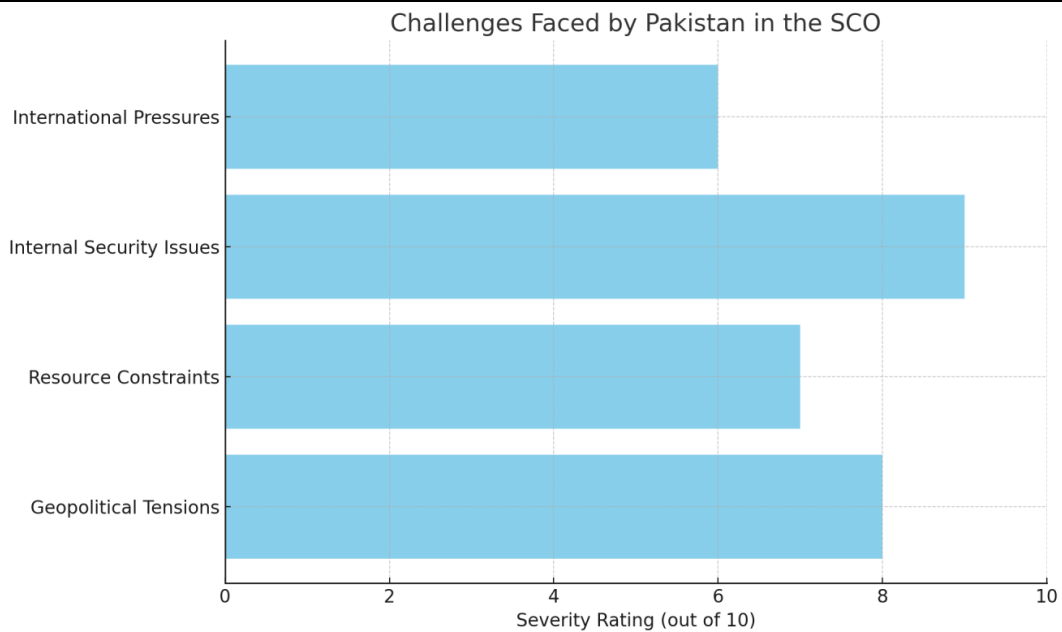
The level of political decay adds on this. Political instability coupled with political upheavals has greatly hampered the formulation of a clear vision of the external policy on security within the region (Fazal & Khan, 2020). Lack of assurance either on regional or political level poses a problem to Pakistan in terms of forming the favorable relations and remarkable engagements in the framework of SCO. There is thus, corresponding challenge between internal security needs as well as external obligations in Pakistan. On one hand, Pakistan has internal enemies with whom it needs to wipe out to support national stability; on the hand, it has to play a positive role in regional security to enhance regional security and its economic prospects.

### **International Pressures**

It also means that the Geopolitical triangle relationship between Pakistan and the SCO is compounded with internal and external pressures as the western countries led by the US. The relationship between Pakistan and the United States has been always a complicated one, there were episodes of cooperation and sometimes conflict. The next cause of Pakistan concern is internal to the country which include U.S. strategic interest in the region especially on counter terrorism and the Afghanistan situation (Raza, 2023). External environment has changed after recent happening such as the withdrawal of the USA from Afghanistan which effects the geopolitics of the region and hence the Strategic environment of Pakistan. The US has tried to monopolize its influence in the Central Asia region, and America's relationship with India has improved, which most of the time depicts Pakistan as an insecure actor in the Central Asia's security framework (Khan, 2022). This approach puts more pressure on Pakistan because of the ongoing balancing between the SCO and the Western countries. Also, the power of the international organizations for instance the International Monetary Fund (IMF) also limits the Pakistan foreign policies. Such premises restraint the freedom of Pakistan's actions in dealing with organizations such as the SCO because the government might have to turn its attention between regional integration and requirements imposed by the lending agencies (Mansoor, 2023). That external pressure can become a challenge for Pakistan to act in the interests of the state and achieve the country's goals within the framework of the SCO.

Therefore, the present research establishes that Pakistan faces several challenges in effectively engaging the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, principally as a result of geopolitical rivalry with India, lack of resources, internal security threats, and pressures from the international community. Solving these problems is possible only by using measures that do not ignore the importance of maintaining stable internal situation in their countries, as well as actively developing cooperation with other SCO member states. It is as Pakistan remains caught in these dynamics that its capacity to build its engagement with the SCO as an instrument to boost its contribution to the security of regional stability is essential to its strategic agenda as well as Central Asia's stability.

Challenges Faced by Pakistan in the SCO: This horizontal bar graph depicts the degree of difficulty which Pakistan faces in the context of SCO; geopolitical rivalry, dearth of resources, internal security threats, and external pressures.



**Graph: Challenges Faced by Pakistan in the SCO**

**Recommendations**

In this part, key suggestions for the improvement of Pakistan’s position in the SCO are presented to the reader. These recommendations addressing the given obstacles are as follows in order to enhance Pakistan’s standing in the SCO, as well as to address the internal security threats, and foster regional cooperation.

**Building Solid Relations within the SCO**

Strengthening cooperation in the SCO framework, first and foremost, with such members as China and Russia can be considered one of the most important actions for Pakistan. However, to enhance the bilateral relations, Pakistan should give higher priority to high level diplomatic interactions and frequent communication. These measures include convening of separate ministerial sessions and bilateral Summits meeting in areas of interest such as security, economic relations and counter-terrorism. Since China is one of the important members of the SCO, Pakistan has strong grounds to expect Beijing’s support to its regional security projects. Projects under the Belt and Road Initiative also encourage cooperation, since economic integration in most cases leads to political and security integration (R201). Moreover, Pakistan needs to work for conducting bilateral as well as joint military exercises and training operations with China and Russia. It does this not only to strengthen military cooperation, but cooperation in security affairs as well.

More so, Pakistan should engage in advocacy of its concerns and priorities through participation in SCO forums and working groups. Participating in multilateral dialogue on security challenges posing threat to the region, particularly Central Asia, it is possible for Pakistan to explore its potential for effective influencing security agenda-setting of the SCO (Ullah, 2023). In this way, Pakistan can cultivate these relationships to establish a collectively cooperative atmosphere that would benefit the overcoming of security concerns that challenge the stability of the entire security organization while, at the same time, can improve its modus operandi within the said organization.

**Enhancing the Sharing of Intelligence**

Therefore, to enhance efforts in fighting the menace of terrorism and extremism in Pakistan, effort should try to be guided towards enhancing coordination within the SCO-RATS. Transparency of security intelligence sharing is therefore important in the formulation of security counter measures. Pakistan can start the process for the proper formation of intelligence sharing among member, this includes matters such as creating special mean of communication, and guidelines for intelligence sharing. In addition, Pakistan should argue for the necessity of the periodic cooperation between SCO intelligence organizations through training and seminars. Through these sessions one can build up the capability of member states to address new threats and challenges, exchange measures, good practices and coordinate measures to prevent terrorism. Therefore, to enhance RATS effectively Pakistan will have to play a more proactive role in contributing to its initiatives, and get more involved in personnel

and other capacity building activities to improve over all force factors of this organization in counter security threats. Furthermore, Pakistan also offers the idea of joining with Central Asian states to elaborate effective counter-terrorism strategies that should include both warlike measures but also actions that-base on the socio-economic agenda to fight the roots of terrorism.

### **Leveraging Economic Diplomacy**

These opportunities include domain conceptualization of Pak link to BRI and the expansion of bilateral and multilateral cooperation in the SCO framework in terms of economic and security partnership. Thus, Pakistan should concentrate on many important aspects to benefit most from this initiative. First, it has to focus on executing those infrastructure projects that will improve connectivity between the two regions: South Asia and Central Asia. Enhanced transport and communication network enhances trading and economic integration thus making the region more integrated economy.

Second, Pakistan should invite foreign investment special in energy and agriculture and technological sectors in the SCO framework. Thus, FDI from the SCO member states including but not limited to Pakistan’s considerable economic development and job creation will lead to domestic stability, especially if FDI comes from China and Russia, Mehmood, 2022). Also, the SCO’s regional trade inside the organization can increase the level of economic partnership and improve investment climate. Besides, Pakistan should engage in SCO economic committees and subgroups to define and eliminate trade and investment challenges. It is thus important for Pakistan to play an active role in dialogue related to trade liberalization, regulatory convergence and economic cooperation to establish itself as the main actor in the economic integration process on the South Asian region.

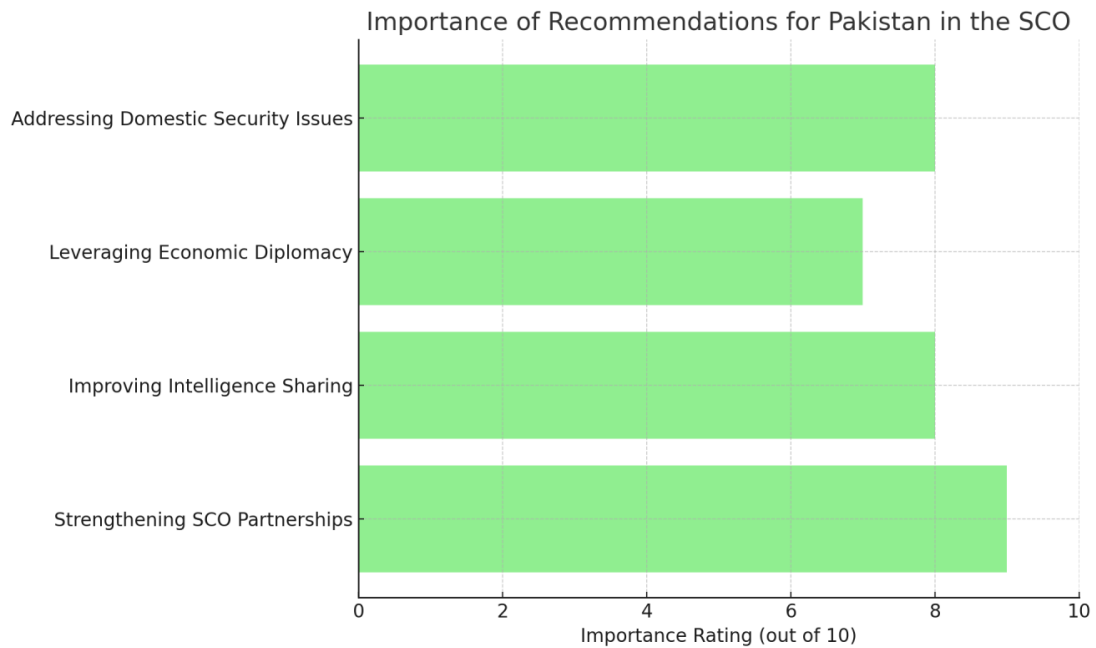
### **Solving the Problems Related to Domestic Security**

This way addressing domestic security challenges in Pakistan is crucial to facilitate the country to become more proactive member of the SCO. To achieve this will call for a multi-value strategy with major emphasis on enhancing internal security and stability. First, Pakistan should focus enhancing its endeavours of law enforcement and counter-terrorism apparatuses. This can be done by providing adequate financial support to their existing educational programs, efficient equipments and best technology to improve their functionality. Thus, increasing the effectiveness of security forces in the country will improve the situation inside the country and increase its contribution towards ensuring regional security measures in SCO format (Khan, 2022). Second, Pakistan has to undertake massive efforts on counter radicalization to try and combat the root causes of terrorism, extremism and radicalization in the first place. \_This should be done in consultation with civil society organisations, educational institutions, and other communities to foster tolerance as well as social and economic related cohesion. Eradicating socio-economic insurgencies that radicalism thrives in empowers Pakistan to ensure fewer internal crises and also strengthens its position in the SCO member states respectively on account of Fazal and Khan (2020). Moreover, continuous and active campaigns are needed as to make the slogans of regional integration cooperation at the SCO and security collaboration as the acute national priorities of the state and beget the population’s support to the authorities’ activities. This may foster a favorable context for Pakistan to improve its security and involving contribution in stability of the region and manage internal problems with equal efficiency.

Last of all, to elevate the Pakistan’s position in the SCO, a multilevel approach must be designed to increase the political conflict-free zone, assure domestic safety, and profit from the economic potential. Pakistan is totally extremism-free nation. It has dependably censured ‘terror-based oppression’ by having faith in peace and serenity all through the world (Ullah et al., 2021). In this context, the substantive cooperation with the other members of the SCO, particularly China and Russia; enhanced intelligence sharing through RATS; and addressing internal security challenges will enable Pakistan to present itself as a prime protagonist in stability of the region through economic diplomacy as in BRI project. The effective application of these recommendations will not only strengthen Pakistan’s position in the SCO but also will contribute to the work in general on the promotion of peace and security in Central Asia.

**Graph:** The last of the graphs, illustrates the priority of each recommendation – this highlights how vital these strategies are for Pakistan’s participation in the SCO. From it the member of Pakistan can get a clear signal of which recommendations are found more important and thus should help in prioritizing to works to enhance the influence of Pakistan in the organization.





**Conclusion**

In conclusion, in this introduction one has identified the role of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in world security and secondly, how Pakistan fits in this system. Analyzing the SCO goals, Pakistan’s role in fighting terrorism, and the roles of Central Asian states for more comprehending of the tendencies of cooperation and rivalry in this significant area. As Pakistan will have to successfully address its numerous security issues in the future, its working with the SCO will directly determine the stability of the entire region. The subsequent sections of this paper will expansion in understanding Pakistan’s particular contributions to the SCO, the enclosed obstacles, and the open doors for further improvement of security and coordination inside the SCO setting.

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