

## INTRODUCTION TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY (IPS)

### Summer Course 2025 (CPS-101)

Centre for International Peace and Stability (CIPS), NUST, Islamabad

14<sup>th</sup> July – 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025


Day 1: 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 (Monday)		
<b>Opening Session</b>		
09:00—09:15	Registration	
09:15—10:00	Welcome Ceremony	
10:00—11:00	Hi Tea – Ice Breaking Session	
11:00—12:00	Group photograph – NUST Tour	
Day 2: 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2025 (Tuesday)		
<b>Theme 1: Rethinking Counter-Terrorism and Counter-Violent Extremism</b>		
<i>Time</i>	<i>Session</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
09:30—11:30	Soft Approaches to Counter Terrorism and Counter Violent Extremism	 <p><b>Dr Khurram Iqbal</b> Associate Professor, National Defence University</p> <p>Dr. Khurram Iqbal holds a PhD in Security Studies from Macquarie University, Australia, and a Master’s degree from the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies (RSIS), Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. He is a recognized expert on counter-terrorism, radicalization, and South Asian security. Dr. Iqbal has previously served as Senior Analyst at the International Centre for Political Violence and Terrorism Research (ICPVTR), Singapore, and as Research Coordinator at the Pakistan Institute for Peace Studies (PIPS). He is the author of ‘The Making of Pakistani Human Bombs’ and ‘Pakistan: Terrorism Ground Zero’. His research and policy work center on non-kinetic responses to extremism and transnational security challenges in the Asia-Pacific region.</p>

12:00—14:00	<p>Countering Extremism through Cultural Heritage: Preserving Identity to Prevent Radicalization</p>	 <p><b>Dr. Muhammad Waqas Saleem</b> National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa)</p> <p>Dr. Muhammad Waqas Saleem currently serves as the Executive Director of the National Institute of Folk and Traditional Heritage (Lok Virsa). He holds a PhD in Cultural Anthropology from Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), Islamabad. Prior to his current role, he taught at the Department of Anthropology and served as Deputy District Officer for Social Welfare, Women Development, and Bait-ul-Maal, Government of Punjab, Rawalpindi. His work focuses on cultural approaches to counter radicalization and foster social cohesion through heritage preservation, community engagement, and inclusive cultural narratives. Dr. Saleem can be reached at ed@lokvirsa.org.pk</p>
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11:30—12:00 **\*Tea Break**

**Day 3: 16<sup>th</sup> July 2025 (Wednesday)**

**Human Security, Inclusion, and Legal Frameworks**


<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
09:30—11:30	Human security and Migration: Legal frameworks and host state responsibilities	 <p><b>Dr Tasleem Malik</b> Assistant Professor CIPS-NUST</p> <p>Dr. Tasleem holds a Ph.D. in International Relations with a specialization in Central Asian Studies. Her research interests encompass discourse analysis, post-structural and postmodern theory in IR, with a particular engagement with the works of Michel Foucault, Giorgio Agamben, and Achille Mbembe. She explores a wide range of critical themes, including refugees and migration, non-traditional security, hydro-politics, politics of exceptionalism, identity politics, and border and frontier studies. Dr. Tasleem is also deeply invested in deconstruction and the philosophical underpinnings of research methodology, and her work contributes to expanding critical approaches within International Relations scholarship.</p>


12:00—14:00	Inclusion, Transparency, and Human Security: Pathways to Sustainable Peace	 <p><b>Mr Zahid Abdullah</b> Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI)</p> <p>Mr. Zahid Abdullah currently serves as RTI Advisor at the Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI). He holds a Master’s in English Language and Literature and an MS in Development Studies. One of the few blind individuals globally to have served as a Federal Information Commissioner, he held the position in Pakistan from 2018 to 2022, authoring 333 landmark judgments and playing a key role in institutionalizing the Commission. A passionate advocate for disability and information rights, he has contributed to national and international movements, authored Disabled by Society, and published over 80 op-eds on human rights issues.</p>
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11:30 – 12:00 **\*Tea Break**

**Day 4: 17th July 2025 (Thursday)**

**Peacebuilding in South Asia: Climate Security, Water Diplomacy, and Gendered Perspectives**



<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
09:30—11:30	Climate proofing, Indus Water Treaty, and Instruments of peace building in South Asia	 <p><b>Brig (R) Dr Fiaz Hussain Shah</b> Associate Professor CIPS-NUST</p> <p>Brig (R) Dr. Fiaz Hussain Shah is currently serving as Associate Professor of Practice at the Centre for International Peace and Stability (CIPS), NUST. He holds a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies with a specialization in climate change and national water resources. He has previously held key positions, including Director General of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and Director General of the Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA). Dr. Shah is a published scholar with numerous research contributions on climate change, disaster management, and water governance.</p>

12:00—14:00	<p>Women, Peace, and Security (WPS)          Agenda: A Feminist Framework for Reimagining Peacebuilding in the 21st Century</p>	 <p><b>Ms Kainat Kamal</b>          PhD Scholar, CIPS-NUST</p> <p>Ms. Kainat Kamal is a peace advocate and research scholar currently pursuing a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies, with a specialization in the Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) agenda. She has been a prominent voice for youth-led peace initiatives in the former FATA region and has represented Pakistan on international platforms, including UN Women and UNITAR. Her work centers on gender-inclusive peacebuilding and the empowerment of women in conflict-affected settings.</p>
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11:30—12:00 **\*Tea Break**

**Day 5: 18th July 2025 (Friday)**

**Challenging Narratives & Militarized Approaches: Rethinking Security and Perception in Conflict Zones**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
09:30—11:30	Peace, Warfare Media Literacy: Preparing Next Generation for War of Perceptions and Narratives	 <p><b>Dr. Col. Qasim Ali Shah</b></p> <p>Dr. Qasim Ali Shah is a freelance researcher and former faculty member of the Department of International Relations at NUST, Abbottabad Campus. He holds a PhD from COMSATS University, Abbottabad, and has an interdisciplinary academic background with a focus on narrative construction and Development Studies. His research interests include narrative studies, ontological security, conflict, peace, and development.</p>
12:00—14:00	Beyond the security development nexus: The risk and consequences of militarizing aid in Afghanistan in the post 9/11 era.	 <p><b>Dr. Asif Iqbal Dawar</b>          NDU, Islamabad</p> <p>Dr. Asif Iqbal Dawar is an Assistant Professor of Peace and Conflict Studies at the National Defence University, Pakistan. He holds a PhD in Development Studies (Conflict and Development) from the University of Lisbon and a Master's</p>


		<p>in International Relations from Norway. Trained at institutions including the University of Oslo, Ulster University, and the University of Lisbon, he has worked with renowned organizations such as PRIO (Norway), CeSA (Portugal), and served as Community Development Advisor for UNICEF. His expertise lies in post-conflict development and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).</p>
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11:30—12:00	<b>*Tea Break</b>	
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**Day 6: 21st July 2025 (Monday)**

**Strategic Influence and Regional Security: Power, Culture, and Competition in South Asia**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
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09:30—11:30	<p>Shifting Power Dynamics in South Asia: The Influence of Strategic Culture on Regional Security</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p><b>Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja</b> Executive Director, Center for International Strategic Studies (CISS)</p> <p>Dr. Asma Shakir Khawaja is a distinguished Kashmiri academic and the Founding Executive Director of the Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), AJK—the first woman appointed by Pakistan’s National Command Authority to such a position. Formerly Head of the Department of Strategic Studies at the National Defence University (NDU), she also pioneered the establishment of Pakistan’s first department of Peace and Conflict Studies. Dr. Khawaja holds a PhD from Martin-Luther-University, Germany, and is the author of <i>Shaking Hands with Clenched Fists</i>. Her areas of expertise include strategic studies, peacebuilding, and regional security. A recipient of numerous international fellowships and awards—including the Presidential Gold Medal—she currently leads the <i>Strategic Perspective</i> journal and serves as President of the APCSS Alumni Association Pakistan.</p> </div> </div>
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12:00—14:00	<p>Weapons of Influence: Soft Power in an Age of Strategic Competition</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: flex-start;">  <div style="flex-grow: 1;"> <p><b>Dr. Bilal Zubair</b> Director Research (CISS)</p> <p>Dr. Bilal Zubair is the Director Research at the Centre for International Strategic Studies (CISS), Islamabad. He previously served as Assistant Professor in the Department of International Relations and Strategic Studies at the National Defence University, Islamabad, and has also taught</p> </div> </div>
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		as visiting faculty at Quaid-i-Azam University. He holds a PhD and MPhil in International Relations from Quaid-i-Azam University. Dr. Zubair is the author of book ‘Chinese Soft Power and Public Diplomacy in the United States’ and has contributed to various journal articles and book chapters on soft power, public diplomacy, and China’s foreign policy.
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11:30—12:00	<b>*Tea Break</b>	
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**Day 7: 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2025 (Tuesday)**

**Adapting to Contemporary Threats: Military Strategy and Cybersecurity in the Hybrid Warfare Era**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
09:30—11:30	Rethinking Military Strategy in the Era of Grey Zone Warfare and Hybrid Threats	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;"><b><i>Lt Gen Asif Yasin Malik HI(M)</i></b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">Lt Gen Asif Yasin Malik (Retd) is a highly respected advisor on geopolitical and strategic affairs related to South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and the broader Islamic world. His expertise encompasses civil-military coordination, strategic implementation, and operational and security analysis. He brings decades of experience in military and defense affairs. He also served as DG Joint Intelligence, DG ISI (Counter-Intelligence). Following his retirement from the Pakistan Army, General Asif served as Secretary of Defence from 2012 to 2014. Prior to this role, he commanded the 11 Corps, overseeing key military operations in conflict-affected regions. General Asif also directed extensive rehabilitation and stabilization initiatives in post-conflict zones.</p> </div> </div>
12:00—14:00	Fortifying Digital Borders: Cybersecurity Resilience in a Complex Regional Landscape	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div> <p style="color: blue; margin: 0;"><b><i>Dr. Hasan Tahir</i></b></p> <p style="margin: 0;">SECS-NUST</p> <p style="margin: 0;">Dr. Hasan Tahir specializes in applied cryptography, PUF (Physical Unclonable Functions), network and IoT security, and cloud computing. He earned his PhD in Computing and Electronic Systems from the University of Essex (UK). Prior to joining NUST, he served as a Senior Research Officer and Research Officer at Essex, and lectured at Muhammad Ali Jinnah University. Dr. Tahir has taught both undergraduate and postgraduate courses and has an extensive publication record, including recent IEEE Access and Journal of the</p> </div> </div>


		Franklin Institute articles on IoT/vehicle security and in-network intrusion detection.
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11:30—12:00	<b>*Tea Break</b>	
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<b>Day 8: 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 (Wednesday) (Online Lectures)</b>		
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<b>Pakistan and the West: Navigating Strategic Partnerships in a Multipolar World</b>		
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<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
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09:30—11:30	Forging a US-Pakistan Partnership for a Multilateral Future	 <p><b>Prof. Radosław Fiedler</b> Adam Mickiewicz University</p> <p>Prof. Radosław Fiedler is a Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland. He serves as Head of the Department of Non-European Political Studies and the Doctoral School of Social Sciences. A recipient of the Bekker Scholarship from the Polish National Agency for Academic Exchange, he was affiliated with the Arnold A. Saltzman Institute of War and Peace Studies at Columbia University, New York. He is the author of over 100 academic publications.</p>
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12:00—14:00	EU's policy towards Pakistan: Convergent and divergent aspects <i>-Panel Discussion</i>	 <p><b>Prof. Przemysław Osiewicz</b> Adam Mickiewicz University</p> <p>Prof. Przemysław Osiewicz is an Associate Professor of Political Science and International Relations at Adam Mickiewicz University, Poznań, Poland. He is a non-resident scholar at the Middle East Institute, Washington, and a board member of the Polish Association of International Studies (PTSM). A recipient of the Fulbright Senior Award (Georgetown University), he is the author of over 100 academic publications, including the book Foreign Policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran: Between Ideology and Pragmatism. Prof. Osiewicz also serves as a member of the Polish Accreditation Committee (PKA).</p>
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		 <p><b>Prof. Dr. Najimdeen Bakare</b> Universiti Malaya</p> <p>Dr. Najimdeen Bakare is a Professor at the Department of International and Strategic Studies Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya, Malaysia. He was previously the Head of Research Department at the Centre for International Peace &amp; Stability (CIPS), NUST, Islamabad. His expertise includes EU politics, Global politics, African politics, issues of European Muslims, Regionalism, Developmental studies, Theories of International Relations, Minority issues, and both Islamic and Western Philosophy. With nearly two decades of teaching experience, he has published extensively in renowned journals such as the Journal of Asian and African Studies, Journal of Asian Security and International Affairs, Strategic Studies, Migration Studies, IPRI Journal, amongst others.</p>
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11:30—12:00

**\*Tea Break**

**Day 9: 24th July 2025 (Thursday)**

**Evolving Challenges in Peace Operations: Asymmetry, Principles, and Field Reflections**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Speaker</b>
09:30—11:30	The impact of Asymmetric threats on the Principles of Peacekeeping	 <p><b>Dr. Shannon Zimmerman</b> Deakin University, Centre for Future Defence and National Security</p> <p>Dr. Shannon Zimmerman is a Lecturer at Deakin University, the Centre for Future Defence and National Security. She previously served as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at RMIT University in Melbourne, Australia. Her research focuses on peace operations, with an emphasis on the protection of civilians in conflict zones affected by asymmetric threats. Additionally, she conducts research on misogyny-motivated terrorism, particularly the online dynamics of groups within the so-called "Manosphere." Dr. Zimmerman earned her Ph.D. in 2019 from the University of Queensland and holds a Master's degree in Conflict Resolution from Georgetown University (2012).</p>

12:00—14:00	The Evolution of Peace Operations: Reflections from Missions in Bosnia, Sierra Leone, and Liberia	 <p><b>Brig (R) Ahmed Nawaz</b></p> <p>Brig (R) Ahmed Nawaz brings over 32 years of distinguished service in the Pakistan Army, having held key command, staff, and instructional roles. He holds master’s degrees in Project Management, Defence and Strategic Studies, and War Studies. His international peacekeeping experience includes commanding a Pakistan Army Contingent in Liberia, leading an Infantry Battalion Group in Sierra Leone, serving as Principal Operational Staff Officer in Bosnia, and directing the Pakistan Army Peacekeeping Cell. He has also served as Senior Visiting Faculty at the Peacekeeping Training Cell, CIPS, NUST.</p>
11:30—12:00	<b>*Tea Break</b>	
<b>Day 10: 25th July 2025 (Friday)</b>		
10:30—12:00	Closing Ceremony — Certificate Distribution	
12:30—13:30	Lunch	