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Pakistan’s Acting Government Uses UN Platform to Reassert Its Global Relevance

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Pakistan’s Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar held a phone call Sunday with United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres, discussing themes of international peace and global security. The conversation coincides with Pakistan assuming the rotating presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for July.

During the call, Dar emphasized Pakistan’s claimed commitment to peace and its support for resolving disputes through diplomatic means, according to a statement released by Pakistan’s Foreign Ministry. While these messages align with the expected rhetoric of a temporary UNSC presidency, observers note that such gestures often serve more as posturing than substantive contributions to global stability.

Pakistan's UNSC presidencyby nature ceremonial and briefgrants the country an opportunity to host and lead discussions on key international topics. According to the ministry, Dar briefed Guterres on "signature events" planned under Pakistan's term. However, the specifics of these events remain largely symbolic, and questions persist about the effectiveness of Pakistan's role given its own domestic and regional challenges.

The Foreign Ministry said both leaders plan to meet in person in New York next week during Pakistan's scheduled events at the UN. Dar also expressed Islamabad's backing of the United Nations and reiterated support for its personnel's standard message for countries attempting to maintain credibility within international institutions.

Dar's outreach comes at a time when Pakistan's interim government, which lacks an electoral mandate and is often viewed with skepticism due to its military affiliations, seeks to reaffirm its global image. While the conversation with Guterres was pitched as a high-level diplomatic exchange, critics argue it reflects more about Islamabad's desire to retain relevance on the international stage than any real shift in global peace efforts.

As Pakistan navigates economic turmoil and internal instability, its leadership's focus on international diplomacy may be seen as an effort to deflect from pressing domestic issues. Whether its temporary position in the UNSC results in a meaningful impact remains to be seen