

## US and Asian Military Chiefs Convene in Pakistan to Bolster Security Ties

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In a strong display of international military collaboration, top defense officials from the United States, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan met Saturday in Islamabad for the Regional Chiefs of Defence Staff Conference. Themed “Strengthening Bonds, Securing Peace,” the summit focused on reinforcing joint defense strategies in the face of growing regional instability.

The high-level conference featured detailed discussions on the evolving security landscape of Central and South Asia, with a specific emphasis on counterterrorism efforts, cyber resilience, and the importance of multinational humanitarian coordination during crises.

The participating nations stressed the urgency of adapting to new regional threats, particularly the rise in transnational terrorism and violent extremism. The dialogue also emphasized a shared commitment to respecting national sovereignty and maintaining peace across borders.

In a statement following the meeting, Pakistan's Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, General Sahir Shamshad Mirza, said, "Our goal is clear to forge strong regional partnerships that can collectively address the modern security threats our nations face."

A senior U.S. military official, who requested anonymity due to protocol, noted the importance of regional cooperation, stating, "Security in Central Asia has direct implications for broader global stability. These partnerships ensure a stronger, more unified response to evolving threats."

The conference also explored opportunities for enhanced joint training programs and intelligence-sharing mechanisms, reinforcing the need for military preparedness and interoperability. Participating nations echoed support for more frequent defense exchanges and technology-sharing frameworks to better address the region's defense challenges.

While global powers like China and Russia continue to assert their influence in Central Asia, this U.S.-backed regional dialogue reflects a push for strategic realignment and an alternative model for regional security, based on multilateral respect, sovereignty, and pragmatic defense cooperation.

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The Islamabad conference signals a renewed commitment among key players in Central and South Asia to strengthen ties with the United States amid shifting global alliances. As the region faces increasing external pressures and internal threats, such cooperative efforts will likely continue to play a vital role in upholding regional stability.