



## International Conference SECURING A FRONTLINE STATE Alternative Views on Peace and Conflict in Pakistan

8th-9th December 2011  
Marriott Hotel, Islamabad.

### Profiles of the Conference Speakers

#### INTERNATIONAL

##### **Mr. Abdul Rahman Habibzui**

is head of the South Asian Studies Institute in Regional Studies Center of Afghanistan (RCSA), Kabul. Since 2008, he is also Academic member of the Editorial board of *Regional Studies* magazine as well as Academic member of Pashto International Research Center of Afghanistan's Science Academy.

Mr. Habibzui was a legal and technical translator with *CARE INTERNATIONAL* Logar sub office and worked later as reporter with *FRANCE 24* (TV) in southern provinces of Afghanistan. Between 2005 and 2006 he was

General Director and Editor of International news in RTA, National Radio Television of Afghanistan, DW, Dochawilai.

Mr. Habibzui has written academic and investigative political, historical, social and literal essays and articles published in different academic magazines. Apart from these, he writes short stories and literary pieces. His publications include a book titled "The Independent Social Organizations and Media and Mass Media of Great Paktai" and "Pakistan Identity" (under print) as well as "The

Formation and Sources of Authorities in Pakistan” (under print).

Hei graduated from Pashto department, Kabul University and holds a MA degree in Literature from Kabul University.

#### **Dr. Haider Nizamani**

teaches Political Science at the University of British Columbia (UBC) in Vancouver, Canada. He has also taught courses on various aspects of South Asian politics and the politics of the developing world at the Simon Fraser University (Canada).

A Phd from the UBC, he was a Global Security and Cooperation Fellow of the Social Science Research Council at UBC's Institute of International Relations from 2001 to 2003. He further was a postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies (2000-2001) and is visiting research fellow at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad.

Dr. Nizamani is the author of “The Roots of Rhetoric: Politics of Nuclear Weapons in India and Pakistan”. His academic writings have appeared in academic journals such as *Millennium: The Journal of International Studies*, *Contemporary South Asia*, and *Contemporary Security Policy*. He also regularly contributes to the op-ed pages of daily *Dawn*, Pakistan.

#### **Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad**

is the Quaid-e-Azam Fellow, St. Antony's College, and Senior Research Associate of Centre for International Studies at the University of Oxford, UK. He is on leave from Quaid-i-Azam University, where he teaches as Associate Professor of International Relations. He previously served as Assistant Professor of International Relations at Eastern Mediterranean University, North Cyprus and and Senior Research Fellow at Area Study Centre, Quaid-e-Azam University. He was a Fulbright scholar at University of California, Santa Barbra, USA, and is a recipient of several other fellowships and awards. Formerly a journalist, Dr. Ahmad reported on the conflict in Afghanistan and Pakistan. His academic publications have focused mostly on issues of South Asian security and Pakistan's foreign policy—and include articles in refereed journals such as *Asian Affairs*, chapters in edited volumes by major publishers, and books such as *Gulbuddin Hekmatyar: An Afghan Trail from Jihad to Terrorism*.

Currently, Dr. Ahmad is conducting research on conflict resolution in Afghanistan, exploring theoretical approaches and practical possibilities, particularly concerning reconciliation and regionalism.

#### **Mr. Jeffrey Laurenti**

is senior fellow at The Century Foundation on international affairs. He has served as director for TCF's international task force on Afghanistan in its regional and multilateral dimensions and as co-director of TCF's peace and security initiative with the Center for American Progress. He is the author of numerous monographs on subjects such as international peace and security, terrorism, U.N. reform, international law and justice, and other issues dealt with by the multilateral system.

He served as deputy director of the United Nations Foundation's United Nations and Global Security initiative commissioned by U.N. secretary-general Kofi Annan. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

At TCF he has been the coeditor of “Breaking the Nuclear Impasse: New Prospects for Security against Weapons Threats” (The Century Foundation Press, 2007) and “Power and Superpower: Global Leadership and Exceptionalism in the 21st Century” (The Century Foundation Press and the Center for American Progress, 2007) and his articles and analyses have appeared in the *Christian Science Monitor*, the *Washington Post*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and on National Public Radio, as well as numerous international policy journals and media.

Graduated Phi Beta Kappa and magna cum laude in government from Harvard University, he earned his master's in public affairs from Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs.

#### **Dr. Mariam Abou Zahab**

is a specialist on Pakistan and Afghanistan. She obtained her Ph.D in Political Science from the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (Sciences-Po). She is a researcher and a senior lecturer at the Institute of Oriental Languages (INALCO) in Paris.

Her research focuses on Shiism in Pakistan, on sectarianism and jihadi groups in Pakistan, and also on the tribal areas of Pakistan and Pashtun society in Pakistan and Afghanistan.

She is now especially working on three books to be published: “The Dynamics of Sunni-Shia Relationships”, London: Hurst (forthcoming May 2012) ; “Contextualising Jihadi Thought”,

London : Hurst (forthcoming January 2012) and "Beyond Swat : History, Society and Economy along the Afghanistan-Pakistan Frontier", London: Hurst (forthcoming June 2012).

#### **Mr. Mehmet Ozkan**

is a PhD candidate at Sevilla University (Spain). His work focuses on the role of religion/culture in shaping foreign policy perspectives in Turkey, India and South Africa. After graduating from International Relations at the Faculty of Political Science at Istanbul University, he studied in South Africa (University of Johannesburg) and Sweden (Linköping University) where he obtained master's degree. He was a Visiting Student at UPB-Medellin in Colombia in 2009; a Visiting Fellow at Institute for Defense and Security Analysis (IDSA), New Delhi (India) in 2010; and Visiting Researcher at Cairo University in Egypt in 2011. His articles appeared in many journals including in *Perceptions*, *Turkish Review of Middle East Studies*, *The Journal of Modern African Studies*, *Review of African Political Economy*, *Insight Turkey*, *Journal of International Development*, *Strategic Analysis*, *Journal of Global Analysis*. He is also the author of *Foreign Policy After Tahrir Revolution: (Re)-Defining the Role of Egypt in the Middle East*, (Saarbrücken, Germany: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2011).

#### **Dr. Smruti S Pattanaik**

is a Research Fellow at the Institute for Defense Studies and Analysis (IDSA), New Delhi. She joined the IDSA in 1998. She holds a PhD in South Asian Studies from the School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Dr. Pattanaik specializes in the politics of identity in South Asia. She has worked on the role of the military in politics and problem of democratization; and the dynamics of India's relations with its neighbours especially Pakistan, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.

Dr. Pattanaik has been a recipient of many international fellowships. She was awarded the Kodikara fellowship in 1999 (RCSS, Colombo). As a Postdoctoral Fellow at MSH (Fondation Maison des Science de l'Homme), and the Centre for International Relations and Research (CERI, Science Po Paris), she conducted postdoctoral research on "Broadening Consensus in Fighting Religious Militancy / terrorism: Can Democracy in Pakistan Ensure regional stability?".

Dr. Pattanaik has published more than 40 articles in various journals, has contributed around 20 chapters in edited books, and delivered lectures on security issues both in India and abroad.

She is part of IDSA's task force on Nepal, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Her most recent publications include "India's Neighbourhood Policy: Perceptions from Bangladesh", *Strategic Analysis*, January-February, 2011 and "New Radical and Old Islamists: Pakistan's problem of Religious Radicalisation and its Implications" (*Strategic Analysis*, July-August, 2011)

#### **Dr. Tahmina Rashid**

is an Associate Professor in International Studies, & discipline Head Arts & Humanities, at the University of Canberra, Australia. She has a Masters' and PhD in Gender and Politics from the University of Melbourne. She has previously worked as Program Director International Development, RMIT, and Assistant Professor at the University of Punjab. She was a Fulbright scholar in 1996 and was also awarded Asia Fellow Award, Ford Foundation in 2004-05 to work in urban slums in Dhaka, Bangladesh. She is a development consultant & field researcher with a keen interest in South Asian region. Her academic interests include feminist movements in South Asia; radical Islamic Movements; urban/rural poverty; migration & identity; development & human rights; community sustainability & empowerment and microcredit. She is the author of *Contested Representations: Punjabi Women in Feminist Debates in Pakistan*, Oxford University Press, 2006.

#### **Dr. Thomas K. Gugler**

is currently a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Vienna. Prior to this, he was a Research Fellow at the Zentrum Moderner Orient in Berlin. He also researched and taught respectively at University of Erfurt (Germany) and at the Department for Germanic & Romance Studies, Delhi University (India).

Dr. Thomas K. Gugler especially researched on the Islamic missionary movements Tablighi Jamaat and Dawat-e Islami (with a focus on their activities in European countries). Further, his postdoctoral project focuses on jihadist mobilization of the Lashkar-e Tayba in the Internet.

He is the author of two books, “Ozeanisches Gefühl der Unsterblichkeit” (2009) and “Mission Medina: Dawat-e Islami und Tablighi Jamaat” (2011).

Dr. Thomas K. Gugler graduated from Ludwig-Maximilian-University Munich with a Master degree in South Asian Studies, Religious Studies and Psychology and received a Ph.D. in Islamic Studies from Erfurt University with distinction, summa cum laude. He is recipient of the Gerda Henkel Foundation scholarship.

#### **Dr. Yunas Samad**

is Professor of South Asian Studies, Director of Postgraduate Research in the School of Social and International studies at the University of Bradford. He lectures in sociology and has directed the MA programmes in ethnicity and the undergraduate programme in South Asian Area Studies.

Prior to this, he was a Research Fellow at the Centre for Research on Ethnic Relations, Warwick University, and Associate Fellow of the Cecil Rhodes Chair of Race Relations, Oxford University and has also taught at Oxford and Sussex University.

He has conducted a number of projects, working for various international organisations; for example the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Economic Social Research Council, The European Commission and the Joseph Rowntree Foundation. He is on editorial / advisory board of the following: *Contemporary South Asia* and Anthem Press series on Plurality and *South Asia Multidisciplinary Academic Journal*. His latest book “The Pakistan-US Conundrum: Jihadists, the Military and the People-The Struggle for Control”, Christopher Hurst and Co, London has just been published.

### **National**

#### **Dr. Abid Suleri**

is executive director at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), Islamabad. Prior to joining SDPI he served as Head of Programs, OXFAM GB Pakistan. He has conducted intensive research on “Food Insecurity”, “Regional Trade” as well as “Globalization and Rural Livelihoods”. His other research interests include regional integration, institutional reforms, disaster management, poverty-environment nexus and sustainable natural resources governance.

Dr. Suleri is called on to give policy advice and is serving on various policy forums / advisory boards at national, regional, and international levels and represents the civil society of Pakistan in several working groups and committees. He also imparts trainings on sustainable development to parliamentarians, academia, government officials, journalists, and development practitioners. At various universities, he serves Board of Studies and co-supervises PhD and MSc students under NCCR program.

Dr. Suleri earned his Ph.D. in Food Security from the Natural Resources Institute (NRI), University of Greenwich, United Kingdom. His book: “Social Dimensions of Globalization? A case of Pakistan” was declared as “Publication of Most Importance in Year 2004” by NCCR Switzerland.

#### **Ms. Afiya Shehrbano Zia**

is a feminist researcher and activist based in Karachi, Pakistan. She is an active member of Women’s Action Forum in Pakistan and an advisory board member of the Centre for Secular Space (UK). She is author of “Sex Crime in the Islamic Context” (1994); “Watching Them Watching Us” (2000, ASR, Pakistan) and has edited a series of books on women’s issues.

In recent years, she has authored several essays carried in the *Feminist Review*, *Journal of International Women’s Studies*, *Economic and Political Weekly*, *Global Social Policy*, *OpenDemocracy*, the *University of Cambridge Occasional Paper Series* and has authored a recent paper, “Motivated by Dictatorship, Muted by Democracy” (Zed books forthcoming).

In 2008, she was a fellow at the Gender and Religions Department at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS, University of London, UK) where her research work was on ‘Challenges to Secular Feminism in Pakistan’.

#### **Ambassador (R) Ayaz Wazir**

is a former career diplomat. He has been the Pakistani ambassador in Kabul and Director General (Afghanistan) in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also served Pakistan Missions abroad at Vienna, Maputo, Dubai, Riyadh, Mazar-e-Sharif, London, Manchester and Doha.

Originally from Wana (FATA), he joined the Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1975. Ambassador (R) Ayaz Wazir has several years of experience concerning the issue of

Pakistan-Afghanistan relations. He was selected as member of the Pakistani Mission engaged in shuttle diplomacy between the Taliban and the Northern Alliance to find a peaceful solution to the problem between them from 1997 to 2000. He also represented Pakistan in a Pak-Iran Joint Mission for Afghanistan. Ambassador (R) Ayaz Wazir was a member of the first Pak-Afghan Loya Jirga and a member of the OIC Committee on Afghanistan. In this position, he held talks with the heads of States / Governments of Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the UN Secretary General.

Ambassador (R) Ayaz Wazir was a guest speaker at several universities and institutes. He completed schooling at Wana in South Waziristan Agency and obtained a Bachelor degree from Islamia College Peshawar, a L.L.B from Khyber Law College Peshawar and Masters in Political Science from the Department of Political Science of the University of Peshawar.

#### **Mr. Ejaz Haider**

has recently joined the Jinnah Institute (JI) as its Executive Director. JI is a non-profit public policy organization based in Islamabad. He has worked as a journalist for the past two decades and has held various editorial positions, the last being executive editor of the *Daily Times*. He has been contributing Editor of the Friday Times and writes weekly op-eds for *Express Tribune* and *Pakistan Today*.

Mr. Haider also hosted current affairs programmes on television, anchoring first a programme for *Dawn News* and later for *Samaa TV*.

Mr. Haider has been a Ford Scholar at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a visiting fellow at the Foreign Policy Studies Program at the Brookings Institute in Washington D.C.

#### **Mr Hasham Baber**

is Additional Secretary General of the Awami National Party (ANP).

Mr Baber joined politics after serving in the civil services for 33 years. He has written numerous poems in his native language, Pashto, and has so far published four collections of poetry. Of those, two are award winning publications.

Mr Baber has a Master's degree in English Literature from Islamia College (now university), Peshawar. Additionally, he has

shown great interest in philosophy and political science.

#### **Mr. I. A. Rehman**

is Director of Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) since 1990. HRCP is the leading Pakistan NGO committed to the entire range of human rights.

Mr. I. A. Rehman holds the chair of South Asia Forum for Human Rights (Katmandu) and is member of the Bureau of South Asians for Human Rights. Prior to this, he served (1989-90) as Editor-in-Chief of the Pakistan Times (Lahore-Islamabad).

During the East-Pakistan / Bangladesh crisis, he worked as the managing editor of an Urdu daily, *Azad* and spent the Zia period (1978-88) as the executive editor of weekly *Viewpoint*, the leading independent publication.

Besides hundreds of articles and papers contributed to national and foreign publications, he has three books to his credit: "Jinnah as a Parliamentarian" (co-editor, 1977); "Arts and Crafts of Pakistan" (1983); and "Pakistan under Siege", a collection of columns (1990).

For many years he served as one of the advisers to Forum-Asia (Bangkok), and as Chair of the Pakistan chapter of the Pakistan-India Peoples' Forum for Peace and Democracy 1995-2003.

Mr. I. A. Rehman won the Nuremberg City's International Human Rights Award in 2003 and the Magsaysay award in 2004.

#### **Mr. Mohammad Nafees**

has been working as a statistical analyst and freelance journalist for the last three years. His columns have appeared in print and on-line media as *The Daily Times*, *The Express Tribune*, *The News*, *The Financial Daily*, *Viewpoint* and *Newsline*.

His research focuses on different social and political issues like casualties of terrorism in Pakistan, desecration of holy places in Pakistan by the terrorists, victims of blasphemy accusations and violence against women.

As regards to his professional career, Muhammad Nafees spent 33 years in employment with the General Electric Company, USA based in Karachi. He received a certification as a Six Sigma Statistical Analyst from General Electric Company, USA and completed several Six Sigma Analytical Projects while working with the company.

Furthermore, Muhammad Nafees was one of the executive members of the Bazm-e-Ilmo Danish, Malir, Karachi and Dastak Drama Group, Karachi. During the military regime of General Zia-ul-Haq, Dastak Drama Group staged plays carrying messages of social and political awareness that received overwhelming public and news media appreciation. Currently he is an active member of the Citizens for Democracy, Karachi.

#### **Mr. Muhammad Ziauddin**

is one of the senior most journalists in Pakistan. His career in journalism spans over 45 years after having a post-graduate degree in Journalism from Karachi University in 1964. He currently works as Executive Editor of Daily Express Tribune.

Previously he has been long associated with the Daily Dawn for over 27 years in various capacities ---- Special Correspondent in the UK (2006 – 2009), Resident Editor, Islamabad (2001 – 2006), Bureau Chief, Islamabad (1993 to 2001), Resident Editor, Lahore (1991 - 1992) and its Campus reporter (1964-1965).

He has also been Resident Editor of Daily The News, Islamabad (1992 – 1993) and has worked with the defunct Daily The Muslim (Commerce Editor), defunct Morning News (Assistant Editor), Pakistan Economist (Now Pakistan and Gulf Economist) and the news agency Pakistan Press International (PPI).

He has travelled extensively on professional assignments compiling country profiles of Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Britain, Japan and Germany for Daily Dawn.

He was elected as Secretary General, National Press Club and Assistant Secretary General, Pakistan Federal Union of Journalists (PFUJ) in early 1980s. From 2002 to 2006, he served as the Pakistan President of South Asian Free Media Association (SAFMA).

#### **Mr. Mukhtar Ahmad Ali**

is currently Chief of Party of the "Citizens Voice Project" funded by the USAID. Prior to this, he has headed Islamabad-based organizations "Centre for Peace and Development Initiatives (CPDI) and the Consumer Rights Commission of Pakistan (CRCP).

As a researcher, his micro-conflict study (2001) on the inception of sectarian conflict and formation of Anjuman Sipah-e-Sahaba is well regarded by the research community where he looked at how class differences, rural-urban divide and local-migrant tensions

were transformed into sectarian conflict in district Jhang which is thought to be the capital of sectarian movement in Pakistan.

With an extensive portfolio of research and publications, Mukhtar Ali has also been visiting lecturer at the Iqra University, Allama Iqbal Open University and the Greenwich University, Islamabad Campus.

He is recipient of International Policy Fellowship (IPF) by the Open Society Institute (OSI), and Koddikara Award from the Regional Center for Strategic Studies (RCSS) Sri Lanka.

Mukhtar Ali did his M. Phil in International Relation from the Quaid-e-Azam University and M. Phil in Development Studies from the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), UK with distinctions.

#### **Prof. Dr. Naudir Bakht**

is Chairman at the department of History & Pakistan Studies at University of Sargodha. His areas of work are mainly political culture of Balochistan and Pakistan. He is also adjunct lecturer at, among others, Command and Staff College, Quetta and University Law College, University of Karachi. He has been attending national and international conferences (more than 300).

Prof. Dr. Naudir Bakht holds 28 years of academic experience. He was Chairman at the Department of Political Sciences, Dean Research, and Dean of Social Sciences at University of Balochistan (Quetta-Pakistan).

Further he contributed as an analyst in Print & Electronic Media like Dailies and Geo, Express, VOA. His publications outreached a national and international scope.

He holds a M.A.LLB, a M.Phil and PhD.

#### **Dr. Pervez Amirali Hoodbhoy**

is Professor of Nuclear and High Energy Physics. He teaches at the School of Science and Engineering (LUMS, Lahore) as well as at Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad.

For 25 years, Dr. Hoodbhoy created and anchored a series of television programs that dissected the problems of Pakistan's education system, and two other series that aimed at bringing scientific concepts to ordinary members of the public. He authored "Islam and Science - Religious Orthodoxy and the Battle for Rationality", now in 7 languages. As the head of Mashal Books in Lahore, he leads a major translation effort to produce books in Urdu that promote modern thought, human rights, and emancipation of women. In

2003 he was awarded UNESCO's Kalinga Prize for the popularization of science.

He is a sponsor of *The Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, and a member of the Permanent Monitoring Panel on Terrorism of the World Federation of Scientists. He produced and directed several documentary films that have been widely viewed on national television which deal with political, nuclear, and scientific matters. In 2010, he received the Joseph A. Burton Award from the American Physical Society and the Jean Meyer Award from Tufts University.

He received his BS, MS, and PhD degrees from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and remains an active physicist who lectures at US and European research laboratories and universities. Dr. Hoodbhoy received the Baker Award for Electronics and the Abdus Salam Prize for Mathematics.

#### **Dr. Saba Gul Khattak**

is currently working as Member Social Sector at the Planning Commission of Pakistan. Prior to this, she was Executive Director at the SDPI.

She is associated with several organizations, being a member of the Women's Action Forum (WAF), governing bodies of several NGOs, editorial board of Theoretical Perspectives curriculum committees of two women's studies centers.

Dr. Khattak specializes in comparative politics and her research interests revolve around the political economy of development, feminist and political theory with special emphasis on state theory. She has provided regular input to the government on women's issues. Dr. Khattak writes on gender issues, public policies, governance, militarization, refugee women and refugee politics. She contributes to journals and books and presents papers at conferences.

She earned her Ph.D. in political science from University of Hawaii in 1991. She worked as a research fellow at the East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii in 1992-93 and also taught international relations at University of Peshawar as political science at the University of Hawaii.

#### **Mr. Shakeel Ahmad Ramay**

is currently Senior Research Associate at the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI). He works in the Climate Change Study Center at SDPI which has been working extensively to help public officials and

stakeholders in Pakistan to respond to the challenges posed by climate change and related opportunities for economic development, clean energy and preserving environment.

His research primarily focuses on thematic areas including environment, agricultural development, food security, economic challenges and impacts of climate change. He has also been involved in assessment of INGOs Intervention in NWFP and AJK Earthquake Hit Areas.

Shakeel has been engaged in various national and regional forums that are currently working on climate change including the Prime Minister's task force on Climate Change. He is an Executive Board member of Climate Action Network South Asia and a member of the core team on climate change at the Ministry of Environment, Pakistan amongst others. Shakeel was part of Pakistan's official delegation at UNFCCC negotiations in Copenhagen, COP 15 and Cancun, COP16.

Shakeel holds a postgraduate degree in Agriculture Economics. He completed his M.Sc (hons) degree from the University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan.

#### **Mr. Syed Irfan Ashraf**

is Assistant Prof. of Journalism & Mass Communication at the University of Peshawar. For the last two years he is associated with *Daily Dawn* and writes on the issues related to militancy and media. He also regularly contributes to foreign newspapers and websites based on his frequent field visits to the conflict-ridden areas in FATA.

With 14 years of experience in journalism, he has served for *Daily the Frontier Post*, Urdu *Daily Nawai Waqt*, *The News International Rawalpindi*, *Dawn News Peshawar* and one year in the *New York Times*. As *Dawn News* correspondent, his work was largely focused on the conflict ridden Swat, Bajaur Agency, Kurram, Khyber Agency and Waziristan.

Apart from this Mr. Irfan also works with FES, Mediothek and other media support organisations to organize training workshops for tribal journalists in particular and district correspondents in Khyber Pukhtunkhwa in general for the last six years. Further he co-produced an award winning documentary for NYTs website titled "class dismissed in Swat Valley" in 2009.

He was selected as SUSI fellow (Study of the United States Institute) to study journalism at Scripps School of Journalism in Ohio University.

## Host Organizers

### HEINRICH BOELL STIFTUNG PAKISTAN - Lahore

#### Ms. Britta Petersen

is Country Director of Heinrich Boell Stiftung Pakistan office in Lahore since July 1st 2010.

Ms. Petersen has spent most of her professional life as a journalist and editor of different newspapers. From 2006 to 2010 she was based in New Delhi/India as correspondent for South Asia for the German correspondents network Weltreporter. From 2003 to 2005 she lived and worked in Kabul/Afghanistan as founder-director of the Initiative Free Press that trained Afghan journalists. In that time she also served as media advisor to the Afghan minister of Women's Affairs, Dr. Massouda Jalal as part of the gender mainstreaming project of German Development Cooperation (GTZ). From 2000-2003 she was editor for South and South East Asia at the Financial Times Deutschland in Berlin.

Ms. Petersen studied philosophy, political science, and economics at the Free University Berlin and at Hamburg University and wrote her Master's thesis in philosophy about 'Critique as a Way of Life, Ethos, and Enlightenment in the Work of Michel Foucault'. She also studied Italian language and civilization at the Università Italiana per Stranieri in Perugia/Italy.

She completed her professional education at Axel Springer Journalism School in Berlin. Ms. Petersen has been awarded the "Prize for the Freedom and Future of the Media" by the Media Foundation Leipzig/Germany in 2005 for her work in Afghanistan and the Gisela-

Bonn-Prize by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) in 2009 for "outstanding contribution to the Indo-German relations".

She is author of the books "Mission at the Hindukush. Soldiers of the German Federal Army in Afghanistan", 2005 and "Where the Gods live. Religion and Politics in India", 2006 (both in German language).

### CENTER FOR RESEARCH & SECURITY STUDIES (CRRS) – Islamabad

#### Mr. Imtiaz Gul

is currently the executive director of the Centre for Research and Security Studies, a research and advocacy organization focused primarily on security and governance based in Islamabad.

As a journalist, he has been reporting for various media such as Deutsche Welle (1989-2009), CNN (1998-2000), Hong Kong-based Star World TV, NHK, and National Public Radio in the United States. He also regularly files for *Foreign Policy*, *Wall Street Journal*, and *The Friday Times* (Lahore) on issues such as militancy, border regions, Afghanistan, and Indo-Pakistan relations.

Besides offering advice as a consultant to foreign diplomatic missions and development sector organizations, he regularly appears as an analyst / expert on Al-Jazeera. Mr. Gul published his first book, "The Unholy Nexus: Pak-Afghan Relations under the Taliban", in 2002. His second book, "The Al-Qaeda Connection–Taliban and Terror in Tribal Areas" (Penguin-Viking India, 2009), profiles the evolution and nature of militancy in the Pakistani-Afghan border regions and how they fell under the influence of Al-Qaeda.

Mr. Gul is also Asia Leadership Fellow (Japan Foundation).