

# PAKISTAN’S APPROACH TO THE YEMEN CRISES AND ITS IMPACTS ON REGIONAL DYNAMICS


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- ## Abstract
- Pakistan has faced a difficult diplomatic situation as a result of the Yemen crisis, which has persisted since 2015 and necessitates striking a careful balance between regional alliances, strategic interests, and humanitarian concerns. This study looks at Pakistan's approach on the Yemeni war and how it affects South Asian and Middle Eastern regional dynamics. The parliament of Pakistan has openly rejected Saudi Arabia's request for military assistance in favor of a diplomatic resolution, demonstrating the country's neutral approach to the crisis. Pakistan's efforts to uphold strategic autonomy while maintaining ties with important regional players, especially Saudi Arabia and Iran, are reflected in this position. The ruling emphasizes Pakistan's preference for economic prospects, regional stability, and national interests over military involvement. Pakistan's neutrality affects its relations with Iran, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), and other regional players, and the Yemen crisis has important ramifications for regional dynamics. Pakistan has established itself as a possible mediator by choosing a diplomatic strategy and using its connections with different parties to promote communication. Tensions with Saudi Arabia, a crucial security and economically, have also resulted
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from this position, underscoring the difficulties in striking a balance between conflicting interests. It also examines the domestic political factors, such as public opinion and legislative supervision, that influenced Pakistan's response. Pakistan's approach to the Yemen crisis is indicative of a practical and interest-driven foreign policy that places a high priority on regional security and strategic autonomy. Although this position has helped Pakistan negotiate complicated regional politics, it also highlights how difficult it is to remain neutral in a divided Middle East.

**Keywords:** Yemen crisis, Eastern regional dynamics, Community Structure, Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), Middle East, Pakistan's response.

## INTRODUCTION

Pakistan and Yemen have long-standing ties based on historical, cultural and strategic ties. The two nations share a common Islamic heritage, with Yemen being one of the earliest countries to convert to Islam. In the 1960s, Pakistan established diplomatic relations with the Yemen Arab Republic (North Yemen) and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (South Yemen). Pakistan's foreign policy emphasized solidarity with fellow Islamic countries, and Yemen was seen as an important partner. During the 1970s and 1980s, Pakistan provided military training and assistance to North Yemen, strengthening bilateral ties. Pakistan's military aid helped North Yemen fight the Marxist regime in South Yemen, which was supported by the Soviet Union.

In the 1990s, Pakistan supported Yemen's reunification efforts, recognizing the newly unified Republic of Yemen. The two countries signed several agreements on trade, culture and education. Pakistan's geographical location made it an important partner for Yemen in terms of trade and commerce. Yemeni traders have historically traded with Pakistani ports, and the two countries have cooperated on maritime security.<sup>1</sup> The Arabian Sea and the Gulf of Aden connect Pakistan and Yemen, facilitating people-to-people exchanges. Thousands of Yemenis are studying in Pakistani madrassas and universities, promoting cultural ties. In the 2000s, Pakistan and Yemen cooperated in counter-terrorism efforts. Pakistan shared its expertise in countering militancy, and Yemen sought Pakistan's help in dealing with the growing presence of al-Qaeda. However, Pakistan's relations with Yemen were tested in 2015 when the Saudi-led coalition intervened in the Yemeni conflict.<sup>2</sup> Pakistan's parliament voted to remain neutral despite Saudi pressure to join the alliance. Pakistan's decision reflects its historical ties with Yemen and concerns about sectarian divisions. Pakistan's foreign policy prioritizes Islamic solidarity, but it also seeks to maintain good relations with both Saudi Arabia and Iran.

Remittances from Yemeni citizens working in Pakistan play an important role in Yemen's economy. Pakistan has also provided humanitarian aid to Yemen, particularly during the ongoing conflict. Pakistan-Yemen relations are influenced by regional dynamics, including Saudi-Iran rivalry and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) interests. Pakistan navigates these complications while maintain its commitment to Islamic unity and regional stability. Cultural exchanges are playing

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*an important role in Pakistan-Yemen relations. Yemeni students and scholars visit Pakistan for education and research, while Pakistani artists and intellectuals engage with Yemeni counterparts. Historical records show that Pakistani traders and travelers have visited Yemen since the 10th century. The Hazrami tribe from Yemen has a prominent presence in Pakistan.*<sup>3</sup>

*The Islamic Ideological Council of Pakistan has facilitated dialogue between Pakistani and Yemeni scholars by promoting mutual understanding. Despite the challenges, relations between Pakistan and Yemen are strong. Both countries cooperate on regional security, trade and cultural exchange. Pakistan's stance on the Yemen conflict reflects its critical approach to regional politics, balancing solidarity with Saudi Arabia while maintaining ties with Iran. Pakistan's diplomatic efforts are aimed at promoting peace and stability in Yemen while recognizing the country's strategic importance. Pakistan-Yemen relations serve as a model for Islamic cooperation, demonstrating the potential for peaceful coexistence. Despite regional conflicts and shifting alliances, this relationship has persisted. Pakistan's commitment to Yemen's sovereignty and territorial integrity is unwavering. As the conflict in Yemen continues, Pakistan's role in promoting peace and stability will remain important. The relationship between Pakistan and Yemen exemplifies the power of cultural and historical ties.*<sup>4</sup>

### **OVERVIEW OF THE YEMEN CRISIS AND ITS REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS**

*The Yemen crisis, which began in 2011, has evolved into a complex and multifaceted conflict with far-reaching regional implications. At its center, the crisis pits the internationally recognized government of President Abd Rabbuh Mansour Hadi against the Houthis movement, also known as Ansar Allah, which controls the capital Sanaa and much of northern Yemen.*

*The conflict is rooted in Yemen's turbulent history, including the 1962 civil war, the 1990 coalition, and the 2011 Arab Spring protests. The Houthis, a Shia Islamist group, capitalized on widespread discontent with corruption, poverty and poor governance. In 2015, Saudi Arabia, leading a coalition of Arab states, intervened militarily to restore Hadi's government. The intervention was aimed at countering Iranian influence, which Riyadh sees as a regional threat. Iran denies directly supporting the Houthis, but evidence suggests its support is significant.<sup>5</sup> The conflict has ravaged Yemen, leaving: More than 20 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. 3 million internally displaced the regional implications are deep Saudi-Iranian hostility and Yemen has become a proxy war, fueling sectarian tensions. Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) split: Oman's neutrality Saudi leadership meddling Middle East instability: Yemen's chaos spreads to neighboring countries. Global jihadist networks: Al Qaeda and ISIS take advantage of Yemen's security vacuum. Maritime Security: The Strait of Bab al-Mandab, which connects the Red Sea to the Gulf of Aden, remains vulnerable. The humanitarian consequences of the conflict have sparked international concern: UN Security Council resolutions call for a ceasefire and negotiations. As humanitarian aid arrives, but access remains difficult, the international community presses for*

*comprehensive peace talks.*<sup>6</sup>

## **INITIAL RESPONSE (2015)**

Pakistan's initial stance on the Yemen conflict was based on caution and neutrality. In 2015, when the Saudi-led coalition intervened in Yemen, Pakistan's parliament convened to debate a possible intervention. The government faced pressure from Saudi Arabia, a longtime ally, to join the coalition. However, Pakistani lawmakers took a neutral stance, citing concerns about sectarian divisions and regional stability. Pakistan's decision reflects its historical relationship with Yemen as well as its strategic relationship with Saudi Arabia. Islamabad valued its economic and defense cooperation with Riyadh but was wary of being drawn into a conflict with unclear objectives and potentially dire consequences. Pakistan's foreign policy prioritizes Islamic solidarity, but it also seeks to maintain good relations with both Saudi Arabia and Iran.

In April 2015, Pakistan's parliament unanimously passed a resolution stating that "Pakistan should maintain neutrality in the conflict." The resolution emphasized Pakistan's commitment to Islamic unity and called for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. Pakistan's Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif reiterated this position, saying that "Pakistan will not take part in any military operation." This decision allowed Pakistan to avoid entanglement in conflicts and maintain its relations with both Saudi Arabia and Iran. Given the opportunity to keep.<sup>7</sup>

Pakistan's initial stance on Yemen was influenced by domestic considerations, including public opinion and parliamentary consensus. The country's experience in Afghanistan and its ongoing counterterrorism efforts have made policymakers wary of getting involved in another regional conflict. Moreover, the Pakistan Army was already engaged in operations against militant groups within its borders. Despite the initial pressure from Saudi Arabia, Pakistan's neutral stance is maintained. Islamabad has stressed the need for a peaceful solution, supporting UN-led peace efforts and providing humanitarian aid to Yemen. Pakistan's approach reflects its commitment to regional stability, Islamic unity and national interests. By maintaining neutrality, Pakistan aims to maintain its ties with key regional players and avoid becoming embroiled in the complex and protracted Yemen conflict.<sup>8</sup>

## **PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE AND RESOLUTION (2015)**

In 2015, the Parliament of Pakistan played an important role in shaping the country's position on the Yemen conflict. The National Assembly and the Senate met to discuss the possible inclusion in the Saudi-led coalition against the Houthi rebels. After intense debate, Parliament unanimously passed a resolution on 10 April 2015, reaffirming Pakistan's commitment to neutrality in the conflict.<sup>9</sup> The decision reflects Pakistan's historical ties with Yemen and its strategic ties with Saudi Arabia, as well as concerns about sectarian divisions and regional stability. Lawmakers stressed the need for a peaceful solution, supporting diplomatic efforts to resolve the crisis. This marked a shift from Pakistan's traditional alignment with Saudi Arabia, signaling a more liberal approach to regional disputes. The decision also highlighted the importance of Islamic unity and the role of Pakistan in promoting peace and stability in the Muslim world. In the National Assembly,

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legislators from various parties including Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) and Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) participated in the debate. He stressed the need for caution, citing concerns about Pakistan's internal security and the potential for sectarian violence. Opposition parties praised the government's decision to seek parliamentary approval, stressing the importance of consensus on national security issues.<sup>10</sup>

The Senate also participated in extensive deliberations, with members stressing Pakistan's moral responsibility to promote peace and prevent human suffering. The senators noted the complexities of the Yemen conflict and the potential consequences of military intervention. He advocated a critical approach, prioritizing diplomacy and humanitarian aid. Pakistan's decision to maintain neutrality was influenced by domestic considerations, including public opinion and parliamentary consensus. The country's experience in Afghanistan and its ongoing counterterrorism efforts have made policymakers wary of getting involved in another regional conflict. Moreover, the Pakistan Army was already engaged in operations against militant groups within its borders.<sup>11</sup>

The adoption of the resolution demonstrates Pakistan's commitment to democratic principles and the rule of law. He emphasized the importance of parliamentary oversight in foreign policy decision-making, ensuring that the government remained accountable to the people. The discussion and resolution also highlighted Pakistan's desire for regional stability and willingness to engage in diplomatic efforts for conflict resolution. In the years following the resolution, Pakistan continued to navigate the complex regional dynamics surrounding the Yemen conflict. Maintaining its commitment to neutrality, Pakistan continued to engage in diplomatic efforts to promote a peaceful solution.<sup>12</sup> The country's stance on Yemen is an important aspect of its foreign policy, reflecting its commitment to Islamic unity, regional stability and democratic principles. The 2015 parliamentary debate and resolution served as a major milestone in Pakistan's foreign policy, demonstrating the country's ability to resolve complex regional disputes while upholding its values and principles. The decision to maintain neutrality has had lasting effects on Pakistan's relations with Saudi Arabia, Iran and other regional actors, highlighting the importance of parliamentary oversight and democratic decision-making in shaping the country's foreign policy.

### **FACTORS INFLUENCING PAKISTAN'S DECISION**

Pakistan's decision to remain neutral in the Yemen conflict was influenced by a complex interplay of economic, strategic and domestic factors. Economically, Pakistan relies heavily on remittances from Gulf countries, particularly Saudi Arabia, which has hosted more than 1.5 million Pakistani immigrants. These remittances contributed significantly to Pakistan's foreign exchange reserves, easing the country's balance of payments crisis. Joining the Saudi-led coalition could have jeopardized these important economic ties, potentially reducing remittances significantly and exacerbating Pakistan's economic woes.<sup>13</sup>

Strategically, Pakistan sought to balance its relations with Saudi Arabia and Iran, two regional heavyweights with competing interests. Historically, Pakistan

has had close relations with Saudi Arabia, which provided significant economic and military aid. However, Pakistan also shares a 959 km long border with Iran and recognizes the importance of maintaining good relations with its western neighbor. Joining the coalition would have risked antagonizing Iran, potentially destabilizing Pakistan's western border, and undermining regional security. Public opinion at the national level played an important role in shaping the decision of Pakistan. The country's experience in Afghanistan and its ongoing counter-terrorism efforts had created widespread war fatigue. Many Pakistanis saw the Yemen conflict as a proxy war for Saudi-Iran, fearing that becoming embroiled in another regional conflict would further destabilize Pakistan. Political parties including Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf and Jamaat-e-Islami strongly opposed joining the alliance, citing concerns about sectarian divisions and regional stability.<sup>14</sup>

Pakistan's military, already engaged in operations against militant groups within its borders, was wary of overstretching its resources. The military's priorities focused on securing Pakistan's borders, countering terrorism and maintaining internal stability. Entering the Yemen conflict would have diverted critical resources, potentially compromising Pakistan's internal security. Furthermore, Pakistan's parliament, composed of various political parties, stressed the need for consensus on national security issues. The unanimous resolution to maintain neutrality reflects Pakistan's commitment to democratic principles and parliamentary oversight of foreign policy decision-making. This collective stance demonstrated Pakistan's ability to resolve complex regional disputes while prioritizing national interests and upholding democratic values. The influence of international actors, especially the US and China, also played a subtle role in Pakistan's decision. While the US provided military aid to the Saudi-led coalition, Pakistan's strategic partner China maintained neutrality. Pakistan's decision to remain neutral with China's stance strengthens their bilateral ties and highlights Pakistan's growing diplomatic ties with Beijing.<sup>15</sup>

Pakistan's historical experiences, including its involvement in the 1979 Soviet-Afghan War and the 2001 US-led invasion of Afghanistan, have taught valuable lessons. The country recognized the importance of avoiding entanglement in regional conflicts, prioritizing internal stability and maintaining strategic flexibility.<sup>16</sup> By maintaining neutrality, Pakistan preserved its relations with key regional players while protecting its national interests. Pakistan's decision to maintain neutrality in the Yemen conflict was the result of a careful assessment of economic, strategic and domestic factors. By prioritizing national interests, Pakistan has demonstrated its ability to navigate complex regional dynamics while maintaining democratic principles and maintaining strategic flexibility. The decision has important implications for Pakistan's foreign policy, emphasizing its commitment to regional stability, Islamic unity and national sovereignty.<sup>17</sup>

## **PAKISTAN'S HUMANITARIAN EFFORTS**

Pakistan demonstrated its commitment to humanitarian aid during the Yemen crisis, providing critical aid and evacuating its citizens from the conflict zone. In 2015, the Government of Pakistan launched a humanitarian assistance program for Yemen, focusing on emergency food, shelter, healthcare and education. Pakistan's

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*Ministry of Foreign Affairs coordinated efforts with international organizations, NGOs and community groups to deliver aid. Pakistan's humanitarian assistance to Yemen included food packages, medical supplies and shelter supplies. The Pakistan Air Force and Navy delivered relief supplies to Yemeni ports, while Pakistani NGOs and community organizations distributed supplies to affected populations. The government of Pakistan also provided financial assistance to Yemeni families, supporting education and health care initiatives.<sup>18</sup>*

*Apart from providing aid, Pakistan prioritized the evacuation of its citizens from Yemen. In March 2015, the government of Pakistan launched Operation Rah Najat, aimed at evacuating Pakistani nationals trapped in Yemen. The operation involved the Pakistan Army, diplomatic missions and international partners. Pakistan Navy ships and aircraft facilitated the evacuation of over 4,000 Pakistani citizens, including students, businessmen and families. The evacuation process was complex, involving coordination with Yemeni authorities, Saudi Arabia and other coalition partners. Pakistan's diplomatic missions in Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Oman played an important role in locating and assisting Pakistani nationals. Pakistani embassies and consulates provided emergency travel documents, food and shelter to the evacuees.<sup>19</sup>*

*Pakistan's humanitarian efforts in Yemen have received international recognition. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) appreciated Pakistan's contribution to Yemen's humanitarian response. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) also acknowledged Pakistan's role in providing aid and evacuating its citizens. Pakistan's humanitarian assistance to Yemen reflects its commitment to Islamic solidarity and regional cooperation. By providing aid and evacuating its citizens, Pakistan demonstrated its ability to respond effectively to regional crises. Pakistan's efforts also highlighted the importance of international cooperation to address humanitarian challenges.<sup>20</sup> The success of Pakistan's humanitarian efforts in Yemen can be attributed to several factors. Strong diplomatic ties with Yemen, Saudi Arabia, and other regional actors facilitated aid delivery and evacuation operations. Pakistan's military and civilian institutions worked together seamlessly, ensuring effective coordination and implementation. Pakistan's experience in Yemen has informed its humanitarian aid policies. The government has strengthened its emergency response mechanisms, increasing cooperation between civilian and military agencies. Pakistan's humanitarian efforts in Yemen serve as a model for future regional crises, demonstrating the country's ability to respond effectively and compassionately. Pakistan's humanitarian commitment to Yemen goes far beyond the provision of immediate aid. The country has advocated a peaceful resolution of the conflict, supporting diplomatic efforts to resolve the underlying issues. Pakistan's position on Yemen emphasizes the importance of regional stability, Islamic solidarity and humanitarian cooperation.<sup>21</sup>*

*Pakistan's humanitarian efforts in Yemen demonstrate its unwavering commitment to regional cooperation, Islamic solidarity and humanitarian aid. By providing significant aid and evacuating its citizens, Pakistan has demonstrated its*



*ability to respond effectively to complex regional crises. Pakistan's experience in Yemen serves as a valuable lesson for future humanitarian challenges, highlighting the importance of international cooperation, diplomatic relations and effective.*

## **EMERGENCY RESPONSE MECHANISMS**

*Pakistan has been instrumental in promoting dialogue between warring parties in Yemen, leveraging its diplomatic ties with key regional actors to facilitate negotiations. Islamabad's emergency response mechanism and diplomatic initiatives have contributed significantly to international efforts to resolve the Yemen crisis. Pakistan's diplomatic efforts began in 2015, when it hosted talks between Yemeni government representatives and Houthi leaders. The purpose of these negotiations was to establish a ceasefire and pave the way for comprehensive negotiations. Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs worked closely with international organizations including the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) to support peace efforts.<sup>22</sup>*

*Pakistan's engagement with the United Nations has been very important. Islamabad has consistently supported UN Security Council resolutions on Yemen, advocating for a peaceful solution and humanitarian aid. Pakistan's Permanent Representative to the United Nations has participated in several meetings and discussions emphasizing the need for comprehensive dialogue and regional stability. The OIC has also provided an important platform for Pakistan's diplomatic efforts. As a member of the OIC Contact Group on Yemen, Pakistan has worked closely with other member countries to promote peace and reconciliation. Islamabad has hosted several OIC meetings and conferences, which facilitate dialogue between Yemeni parties and regional stakeholders. Pakistan's diplomatic initiatives have focused on promoting a Yemeni-led and Yemeni-owned peace process. Islamabad has encouraged inclusive dialogue, recognizing the diversity of Yemeni society and the need for broad-based representation. Pakistan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has maintained regular contact with Yemeni government officials, Houthi leaders and other stakeholders, promoting trust and confidence in the peace process.<sup>23</sup>*

*Apart from diplomatic efforts, Pakistan has provided humanitarian assistance to Yemen, supported UN-led relief efforts and provided assistance through bilateral channels. Islamabad's emergency response mechanism has enabled rapid delivery of aid, meeting immediate needs in food, shelter, health care and education. Pakistan's engagement with regional organizations such as the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) has further bolstered its diplomatic efforts. Islamabad has maintained close ties with GCC member states, particularly Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, to promote a unified regional response to the Yemen crisis.<sup>24</sup>*

*The success of Pakistan's diplomatic initiatives can be attributed to several factors. Islamabad's historical ties with Yemen and key regional actors have facilitated trust and cooperation. Pakistan's commitment to Islamic unity and regional stability has provided a principled basis for its diplomatic efforts. Pakistan's experience in promoting dialogue between warring parties in Yemen provides valuable lessons for future conflict resolution efforts. Pakistan's*



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*experience has emphasized the importance of comprehensive dialogue, regional cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Islamabad's commitment to emergency response mechanisms and diplomatic initiatives serves as a model for dealing with complex regional crises.<sup>25</sup> Pakistan's role in promoting peace and stability in Yemen has been widely acknowledged. International partners, including the United Nations and OIC, have praised Islamabad's diplomatic efforts and humanitarian assistance. Yemeni stakeholders have thanked Pakistan for its support, recognizing the country's constructive role in promoting dialogue and reconciliation.<sup>26</sup> Pakistan's emergency response mechanism and diplomatic initiatives have played an important role in promoting peace and stability in Yemen. Islamabad's commitment to comprehensive dialogue, regional cooperation and humanitarian aid has contributed to international efforts to resolve the Yemeni crisis. Pakistan's experience serves as a valuable lesson for future conflict resolution efforts, highlighting the importance of principled diplomacy, regional cooperation and humanitarian solidarity.*

### CURRENT POSITION AND FUTURE DIRECTIONS

*Pakistan's current stance on the Yemen crisis is based on its commitment to neutrality and diplomatic engagement. Islamabad advocates for a peaceful solution, supports UN-led peace efforts and promotes dialogue among Yemeni stakeholders. Pakistan's foreign policy prioritizes Islamic unity, regional stability and national interests. Recently, Pakistan has reiterated its support for the UN-brokered Stockholm Agreement, emphasizing the need for comprehensive negotiations and humanitarian assistance. Islamabad has maintained diplomatic ties with key regional actors, including Saudi Arabia, Iran and the United Arab Emirates, to promote a unified response to the Yemen crisis.<sup>27</sup>*

*However, changing regional dynamics are likely to influence Pakistan's policy. The ongoing Middle East peace process, facilitated by the United States, has given rise to renewed hope for regional stability. Pakistan has welcomed these developments, seeing opportunities to reduce tensions and increase cooperation. The emergence of the Ibrahim Accords, normalizing relations between Israel and the Arab states, has significant implications for Pakistan's Yemen policy. Islamabad has historically maintained a strong stance on Palestine but growing Arab-Israeli cooperation may force Pakistan to reassess its position.<sup>28</sup> Pakistan's relations with Saudi Arabia are extremely important, as Riyadh plays a key role in Yemen. Islamabad's relations with Iran have also improved, with bilateral trade and energy cooperation increasing. Pakistan's balancing act between Saudi Arabia and Iran will continue, prioritizing national interests and regional stability.*

*Pakistan's participation in the China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) have strengthened Islamabad's ties with Beijing. China's growing influence in the Middle East and its interest in Yemen's reconstruction may lead Pakistan to coordinate more closely with China on Yemen policy. Pakistan's domestic politics also influence its stance on Yemen. The current government under the leadership of Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif has maintained continuity in Pakistan's Yemen policy. However, opposition parties and public*

opinion can pressure the government to reassess its position.<sup>29</sup> In the future, Pakistan's policy towards Yemen may change in response to changing regional dynamics. Possible developments include:

- Increased cooperation with China on Yemen's reconstruction efforts
- Increasing diplomatic relations with Arab states, especially Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates
- Continued support for UN-led peace efforts and humanitarian assistance
- Possible re-examination of Pakistan's position on Palestine in view of growing Arab-Israeli cooperation.
- Greater emphasis on economic cooperation and trade with Yemen, taking advantage of Pakistan's strategic location.<sup>30</sup>

Pakistan's commitment to neutrality and diplomatic engagement will remain, but adaptability and pragmatism will guide Islamabad's response to changing conditions in the region. Pakistan's experience in Yemen provides valuable lessons for future conflict resolution efforts. Pakistan's engagement has emphasized the importance of comprehensive dialogue, regional cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Finally, Pakistan's current stance on the Yemen crisis prioritizes neutrality, diplomatic engagement and regional stability. Changing regional dynamics may affect Pakistan's policy, but its commitment to principled diplomacy and national interests will remain steadfast. As the crisis in Yemen continues, Pakistan's adaptability and pragmatism will guide its response, ensuring a constructive role in promoting peace and stability in the region.

### **IMPLICATIONS FOR REGIONAL STABILITY AND PAKISTAN'S FOREIGN POLICY**

Pakistan's stance on the Yemen crisis reflects its commitment to neutrality, diplomatic engagement and regional stability. Throughout the conflict, Islamabad has consistently advocated for a peaceful solution, supported UN-led peace efforts and promoted dialogue among Yemeni stakeholders. Pakistan's foreign policy prioritizes Islamic unity, national interests and regional cooperation. Pakistan's decision to maintain neutrality in the Yemen conflict demonstrates its ability to navigate complex regional dynamics while maintaining principled diplomacy. By avoiding military intervention, Pakistan avoided becoming embroiled in a potentially protracted and sectarian conflict. Instead, Islamabad focused on humanitarian aid, providing significant aid to Yemeni civilians.<sup>31</sup>

The implications of Pakistan's position on regional stability are significant. By promoting dialogue and peaceful solutions, Pakistan plays a role in reducing tensions in the Middle East. Its commitment to neutrality helps protect the interests of Saudi Arabia, Iran and other key actors, reducing the risk of wider regional conflict. Pakistan's foreign policy has been shaped by its experience in Yemen. The crisis has highlighted the importance of diplomatic engagement, regional cooperation and humanitarian assistance. Islamabad's approach serves as a model for resolving complex regional disputes, emphasizing the need for inclusive negotiations and broad-based representation.<sup>32</sup> The crisis in Yemen has also highlighted Pakistan's strategic location and potential role as a regional facilitator.

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*Islamabad's relations with Saudi Arabia, Iran and other Middle Eastern states make it uniquely positioned to promote dialogue and cooperation. Pakistan's participation in regional organizations such as the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) reinforces its commitment to Islamic unity and regional stability.*

*However, Pakistan's position on Yemen is also facing challenges. The country's economic dependence on the Gulf states, especially Saudi Arabia, creates risks. Islamabad must balance its relations with competing regional actors while maintaining its commitment to neutrality and diplomatic engagement. In the broader context of Pakistan's foreign policy, the Yemen crisis highlights the importance of adaptability and pragmatism. Islamabad's ability to navigate complex regional dynamics, prioritize national interests and maintain principled diplomacy serves as a valuable lesson for future regional challenges. Pakistan's experience in Yemen provides insights for regional stakeholders and the international community. This crisis highlights the need for comprehensive dialogue, regional cooperation and humanitarian assistance. It also highlights the importance of respecting state sovereignty and promoting broad-based representation.<sup>33</sup>*

### CONCLUSION

*Pakistan's stance on the Yemen crisis reflects its commitment to neutrality, diplomatic engagement and regional stability. The implications for regional stability and Pakistan's foreign policy are significant, demonstrating Islamabad's ability to navigate complex regional dynamics while maintaining principled diplomacy. As the crisis in Yemen continues, Pakistan's adaptability and pragmatism will guide its response, ensuring a constructive role in promoting peace and stability in the region. Pakistan's experience serves as a valuable lesson in dealing with complex regional conflicts, emphasizing the importance of comprehensive dialogue, regional cooperation and humanitarian assistance. The international community should recognize Pakistan's constructive role in promoting peace and stability in Yemen and beyond. Ultimately, Pakistan's commitment to regional stability and diplomatic engagement will remain, shaping its response to changing regional conditions. The crisis in Yemen has reinforced Islamabad's importance as a regional actor, emphasizing its potential role as a facilitator of dialogue and cooperation in the Middle East.*



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