

## **Rizwana Karim Abbasi: PhD**

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Dr. Rizwana Abbasi is an associate professor in the Department of International Relations at the National Defense University, Islamabad where she teaches Research Methodology, IR Theories, Global Evolving Political Thought and Security Issues such as Nuclear proliferation and nonproliferation and supervising relevant doctoral theses.

Dr Abbasi received her PhD from the University of Leicester, UK, specializing in International Security and Nuclear Non-proliferation. Previously she was a post-doctoral research fellow and taught at the University of Leicester. Formerly, she was a research fellow at the University of Leeds, UK. She is also a graduate of the Daniel K. Inouye Asia-Pacific Center for Security Studies (DKI APCSS), Hawaii.

Rizwana has delivered numerous presentations and talks at different international forums and conferences. She has been delivering lectures as a guest speaker at various academic institutions in the UK. She has participated in over 70 national and international conferences as a speaker up to this date. She has authored a book titled *Pakistan and the New Nuclear Taboo: Regional Deterrence and the International Arms Control Regime* (Oxford, New York, Bern, Berlin: Peter Lang, 2012). Dr Abbasi regularly writes for reputed national and international academic Journals, magazines/daily newspapers/academic blogs.

**Research Interests:** Rizwana works in the areas of international security and nuclear non-proliferation. Her focus remained to comprehend the structure of international security order, emerging regional security complexes and domestic politics of states in response to international developments. Within this debate, her prime interest remained to understand the character of international security institutions and states' nuclear behaviour against the background of the emerging global non-proliferation system. Inside this, the main questions which she investigated were the possession, proliferation and use of nuclear weapons in the contemporary challenging security environment. Her interest also remained to understand the nuclear taboo, its existence, survival and relevance to states' national security policies and strategic culture. At the heart of this debate in her first book she introduced the 'three models' approach to provide the most comprehensive and up-to-date theoretical perspective on India and Pakistan's nuclear behaviour and one which helps illuminate nuclear policy dynamics and the role of international institutions in regulating states' behaviour in other regions as well. Dr. Abbasi argues that a new nuclear taboo is required against the proliferation of nuclear weapons and to preserve international peace and security. Rizwana went further defending her argument as to why the new nuclear taboo requires global attention in a strategic environment in which the dilemma of deterrence is deep rooted and what role the nuclear weapons will continue to play in the current security environment. She also demonstrates the extent to which the behaviour of states is factored into the work of international security institutions and how these institutions may help in strengthening the new nuclear taboo for the maintenance of global peace and security