

Editor's Note

The ISSRA Papers (The Journal of Governance and Public Policy) 1st Half 2016 is being published. Selected Papers pertaining to various domains of policy, governance and other relevant subjects are part of this issue of the Journal. Substantial support in terms of papers and reviews has been received from all the departments of Faculty of Contemporary Studies, NDU. ISSRA faculty has also contributed a number of worthwhile papers. A brief summary of papers and their contributors is given in the succeeding paragraphs.

The first paper 'Political Skills and Learning Organizations – Analyzing the Dynamics' has been contributed by Mr. Farid Ahmed, Dr. Muhammad Zia-ur-Rehman and Ms. Sonia Mushtaq. This study explores the influence of political skills of employees of a learning organisation among employees employed in financial sector of Pakistan.

The second paper 'Strategic communication in 21st century: Understanding new evolving concept and its relevance for Pakistan' is contributed by Ms. Afifa Kiran. This paper provides an understanding of strategic communication in the age of information warfare, and explores its relevance in Pakistan's context.

'E-Governance Practices and Models; Options for Pakistan', written by Muhammad Ilyas, is the third paper. This study highlights various e-governance practices, models and theories, arriving at options for Pakistan.

The fourth paper, 'On the Debate on Footprints of ISIS in Pakistan – Possibilities and Challenges' is written by Ms. Mahroona Hussain Syed. This article analyzes the ISIS's ideological foundations and strategic designs and links them to the updates and evidence provided by media on IS presence in Pakistan.

Next paper, titled 'Leader's Sense-Making During Crisis: Moving Forward towards Prescriptive & Descriptive Mental Models', is written by Dr. Muhammad Zia-ur-Rehman and Ms. Yasmine Muhammad Javaid Iqbal. Being a crucial topic in today's business world, this paper explores role of leader's sense making in facing unanticipated crisis now and then. A strong relation has been found in crisis resolution and leader's sense making.

The Sixth paper 'Enduring Peace in Afghanistan; Finding Role for UN', has been contributed by Muhammad Hassan Javaid Khan and Ms. Iffat Pervaz. This study, while exploring causes of unrest in Afghanistan, aims at finding the grounds for UN in Afghanistan in terms of 'enduring peace in Afghanistan'.

The seventh paper 'Mobilization Enablers for Religious Non-State Actors in Pakistan' is authored by Mr. Abdul Rauf Iqbal and Muhammad Ahsan. This paper explores the enablers that contribute towards the mobilization capacity of religious non-state actors in Pakistan. It further tests the theory that the legitimacy earned by these elements is an outcome of the environment shaped during Afghan War of 1980s.

The last paper 'Transition from Unipolar to a Multipolar World: Implications for Pakistan's Foreign Policy' is written by Ms. Sidra Khan and Ms. Qurat-ul-Ain. The authors hold the view that we are living in

the realm of transition. It was declared at the end the Cold War that unipolarity would not stay for long. The theories explaining transition are significant for the time period we live in. The paper is an attempt to discuss the foreign policy of Pakistan in this changing scenario.

At the end, the Editor extends his profound gratitude to all the writers and readers for pre-posing their trust in ISSRA Papers. It is worth mentioning here that ISSRA Papers has been recognized by HEC in its 'Z' Category. However we are committed to continue striving for further improvement. Wish you all the best of luck and an intellectually rewarding reading.