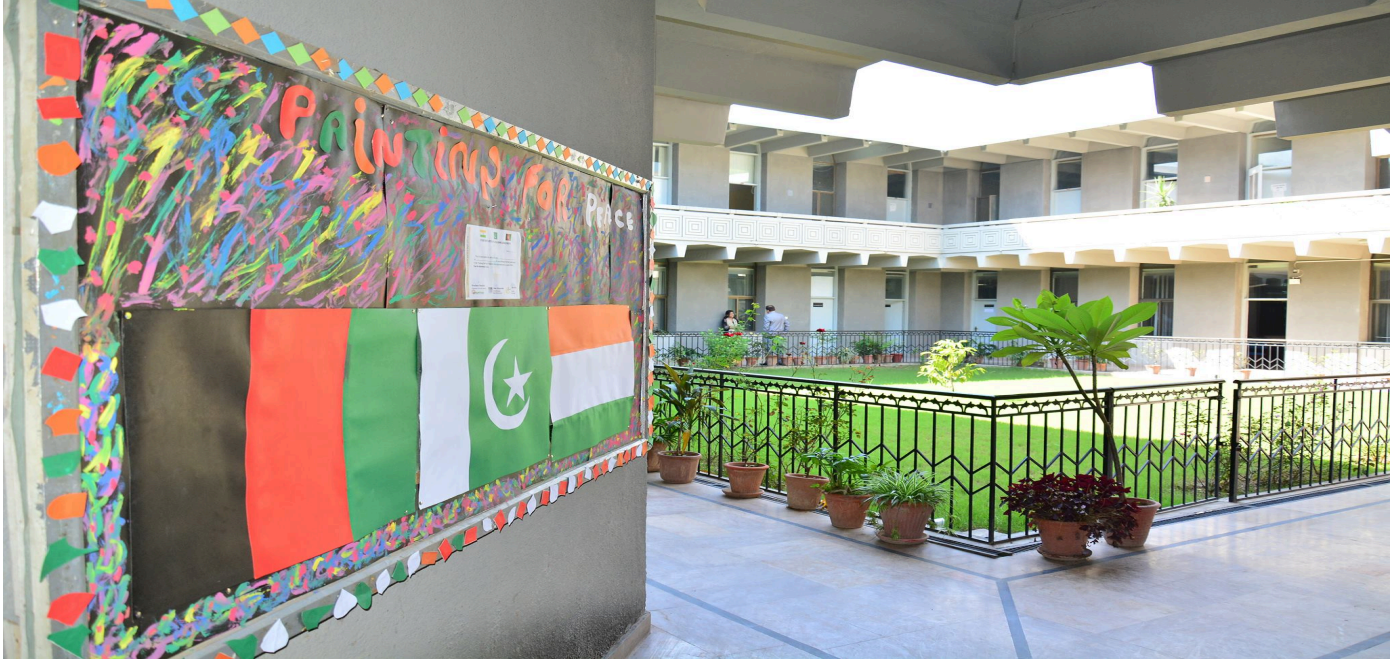


SCHOOL OF POLITICS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

QUAID-I-AZAM UNIVERSITY



School of Politics and International Relations (SPIR) at Quaid-i-Azam University is Pakistan's premier institution of higher learning in International Relations and Political Science, offering quality education to students enrolled in its under-graduate and post-graduate programs. SPIR is also one of the oldest and largest institutions of advanced studies in IR and Political Science in the country. It was established in 1973 as Department of International Relations, which was upgraded to School in 2011. SPIR runs four-year under-graduate degree programs in IR and Political Science, as well as MPhil and PhD degree programs in IR. Its MSc program in IR and Political Science is currently being phased out.

Faculty

The faculty at SPIR is highly proficient in teaching and research. Its current and former members have served on prestigious Pakistan Chairs at leading universities abroad, including Oxford, Columbia, Cambridge and Heidelberg. The School also engages visiting faculty, including academics, researchers, and foreign academics. Each year, its faculty members publish valuable articles in referred journals, chapters in edited books and books published nationally and internationally. They also actively participate in national and international conferences, seminars and workshops, offering their expert input on crucial issues of Pakistan foreign policy, South Asian security and other subjects relevant to their respective spheres of specialization.

Students

Twice a year, the School admits BS students in IR and Politics Science, and MPhil and PhD scholars in IR from Pakistan and abroad, as per admission policy of the University. Under BS programs in IR and Political

Science, which started in Fall 2015, from 50 to 100 students are admitted each semester in the two programs out of thousands of applicants. This factor, while signifying the popularity of under-graduate programs, has contributed significantly to enhancing the academic profile of the School. SPIR also runs an evening program, offering Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Advanced Diploma and MSc in IR to mid-career professionals, including civil servants, teachers, security officials and diplomats. Like the rest of the university, the student community at SPIR represents a cross section of population in Pakistan due to quota-based admission policy of the university. Enrolment of foreign students is a priority. In addition to studies and research, the students are provided ample opportunities for extra-curricular activities.

Teaching

The curriculum at SPIR covers a gamut of compulsory and optional courses in IR and Political Science at both basic and advanced levels, including Theories of International Relations, Research Methodology, International Political Economy, Security and Strategic Studies, Comparative Politics, Foreign Policy Analysis, Diplomacy, International Organizations, International Law, Conflict Analysis and Conflict Resolution, Western and Islamic Political Thought, Politics of South Asia and Politics and Foreign Policy of India and Pakistan. These courses are designed to acquaint the students with the concepts, theories, methodologies as well as historical and current dynamics of politics and international relations.

Research

There is emphasis on the promotion of advanced research at MPhil and PhD levels and sharing policy-relevant research findings of faculty members and research scholars with relevant government and state institutions and independent think tanks. SPIR strives for enhancing the research potential of its scholars and imparting quality education to its students.

Collaborations

SPIR currently runs collaborative programs with several national and international academic institutions and think-tanks, including a Global Campus Program with Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, a Non-Proliferation Webinar Series with CRDF-Global Washington, USA, a simulation workshop on Federalism in Pakistan with Hanns-Seidel Foundation, Islamabad, Germany, and an academic exchange program with Pakistan Council on China, Islamabad.

Seminars

SPIR runs a Weekly Seminar Series and periodically organizes conferences and workshops on current issues in politics and IR, where prominent foreign and local scholars offer their scholarly perspectives. It also has a strong tradition of inviting scholars, diplomats and policy makers to share their knowledge and experience with faculty members and students. Student participation in these academic activities is highly encouraged.

Objective

The key objective is offer students and research scholars the opportunity to fully realize their academic

potential and equip them with needed intellectual and professional skills and for dynamic careers in public and private sectors. As a result, scores of SPIR graduates have made their mark globally and locally in the world of academia, civil-service, diplomacy, media, law and politics.

Vision

With its current focus on inter-disciplinary studies, policy relevant research, knowledge sharing and international collaboration, SPIR aims to keep itself on top of the institutions of higher learning and research in the fields of IR and Political Science in Pakistan. In the last over four decades, the School has already gained due acknowledgement in the country as a center of excellence in IR and Political Science. In the long run, SPIR plans to diversify its student composition by offering admission to students from regional countries like China and the rest of the world. It eventually aims to become a hub in South Asia in the domain of International Studies.