Press Coverage

Ambassador Lecture Series:
Lecture-I: “EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities”
4 July 2018

International

KashmirWatch

IPRI organises Ambassador Lecture Series on EU-Pakistan Relations
July 4, 2018

Editor

Islamabad: Acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism, H.E. Mr. Jean-Francois Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, said that the EU commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremists and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries. He acknowledged that Pakistan has suffered from extremism more than any other country, and stressed that Pakistan and the EU need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

The EU Ambassador pointed out that the EU is not just a trade organization or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well. ‘Since 2003, the Common
Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security’, Mr Cautain shared during the first of the Ambassador Lecture Series on ‘EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute, here in Islamabad, today.

Briefly sharing the history and background of the European Union model, he explained that over the past two years, the EU member states have been focusing on defence and security since the EU’s model of economic integration is also a unique opportunity to support engagement in the field of defence and develop collective defence capabilities. Outlining some of the key points of the 2016 ‘Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy’, Ambassador Cautain said that the strategy sets out the EU’s core interests and principles for engaging in the wider world and gives the Union a collective sense of direction. ‘Decisive steps are being taken on security and defence. Building resilience at home and abroad means creating a more responsive union. The EU is also working to strengthen the resilience of states within and outside its borders by supporting good governance and accountable institutions. Strengthening the internal and external nexus requires addressing issues such as counterterrorism, countering violent extremism, climate change and cyber security collectively’, he stressed.

The Ambassador lauded Pakistan’s efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership. ‘Over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalise a new Engagement Plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe, and hope that a new agreement will be signed under the new government after Pakistan’s general elections. The Engagement Plan is an opportunity for both sides to benefit from multifaceted cooperation ranging from trade to security to numerous other issues, including terrorism,’ he said. Mr Cautain discussed EU’s development cooperation in education, rural development and governance and said that the EU has decided to substantially increase the development cooperation funds allocated to Pakistan to 635 million EUR which is double when compared to the previous years. He explained that ‘One-third of this goes to the education sector channelled through the government conditional upon the achievement of targets set by the government itself. Education is a big challenge for Pakistan, especially in Sindh, since enrollment rates over the past ten years have only increased by 1 per cent’, he remarked.

Discussing EU as one of the main trading partners of Pakistan accounting for the largest share of its global exports, he said that while EU member countries want to invest in ventures like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, ‘greater clarity and more information about CPEC’s long-term vision is required for this to happen.’ It is also vital to recognize that connectivity is not possible without regional stability, he said.

IPRI’s President Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit in his welcome address said that the European Union’s relationship with Pakistan is very important, not only politically but also economically. ‘Under the 2012 Five-Year Engagement Plan, this relationship has moved from strength-to-strength, with GSP Plus incentives helping Pakistan build its capacity in order to become a more effective and competitive partner in international commerce. ‘The EU will continue to be important for Pakistan despite UK’s exit since it has been a trailblazing organization, creating new templates for regional integration and connectivity. We, in Pakistan can learn from the EU, especially in the context of CPEC, to understand how the incentive of regional economic integration can help resolve bilateral political disputes, eventually paving the way for viable cooperative, intra-regional and inter-regional structures,’ he said.

In the Q/A session, Ambassador Cautain answered questions regarding Europe’s migration policy, nuclear energy production, Turkey’s pending EU membership, as well as EU’s relationship with Russia and the EU position on Ukraine. There were also questions about the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, especially about what the EU could do to help resolve the conflict. The participants expected the EU to be more vocal against the ongoing oppression of Kashmiris. They also raised the issue of migration and
how the EU could learn from Pakistan which has been hosting more than 3 million Afghan refugees for more than 38 years. Mr Cautain agreed that the government of Pakistan had worked tirelessly for the Afghan refugees, but at the same time pointed out that repatriation could not be possible till Afghanistan becomes stable and peaceful. The issue of third-generation Afghans born and raised in Pakistan is also a complex matter, he pointed out. On Pakistan-India relations, he said, ‘if Germany and France can work together after being at war for so many years, peace and rapprochement between Pakistan and India is also possible.’

< http://kashmirwatch.com/eu-pakistan-relations-challenges-and-opportunities/>
Pakistan’s Efforts in Combating Extremism Lauded

By DNA
July 05, 2018
Print: Islamabad

Islamabad: Acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism, Jean-Francois Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan has said that the EU commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremists and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries.

He acknowledged that Pakistan has suffered from extremism more than any other country, and stressed that Pakistan and the EU need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

The EU Ambassador pointed out that the EU is not just a trade organization or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well. ‘Since 2003, the Common Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security’, Mr Cautain shared during the first of the Ambassador Lecture Series on ‘EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ organised by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Briefly sharing the history and background of the European Union model, he explained that over the past two years, the EU member states have been focusing on defence and security since the EU’s model of economic integration is also a unique opportunity to support engagement in the field of defence and develop collective defence capabilities.

Outlining some of the key points of the 2016 ‘Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy’, Ambassador Cautain said that the strategy sets out the EU’s core interests and principles for engaging in the wider world and gives the Union a collective sense of direction. ‘Decisive steps are being taken on security and defence.

Building resilience at home and abroad means creating a more responsive union. The EU is also working to strengthen the resilience of states within and outside its borders by supporting good governance and accountable institutions.

Strengthening the internal and external nexus requires addressing issues such as counterterrorism, countering violent extremism, climate change and cyber security collectively’, he stressed.

The Ambassador lauded Pakistan’s efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership.
‘Over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalise a new Engagement Plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe, and hope that a new agreement will be signed under the new government after Pakistan’s general elections.

The Engagement Plan is an opportunity for both sides to benefit from multifaceted cooperation ranging from trade to security to numerous other issues, including terrorism,’ he said. Cautain discussed EU’s development cooperation in education, rural development and governance and said that the EU has decided to substantially increase the development cooperation funds allocated to Pakistan to 635 million EUR which is double when compared to the previous years.

IPRI’s President Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit in his welcome address said that the European Union’s relationship with Pakistan is very important, not only politically but also economically.

‘Under the 2012 Five-Year Engagement Plan, this relationship has moved from strength-to-strength, with GSP Plus incentives helping Pakistan build its capacity in order to become a more effective and competitive partner in international commerce.

‘The EU will continue to be important for Pakistan despite UK’s exit since it has been a trailblazing organization, creating new templates for regional integration and connectivity.

EU lauds Pakistan’s struggle against terror

By News Desk
Published: July 5, 2018

European Union commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremism and terrorism. European Union Flags are pictured here. PHOTO: REUTERS

European Union commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremism and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries.

EU Ambassador Jean-François Cautain said this acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism at a lecture on EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities organised by Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI) on Wednesday.

He acknowledged that Pakistan has suffered from extremism more than any other country, and stressed that Pakistan and the EU need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

Pakistan urged to focus on EU, not just China
The EU ambassador pointed out that the EU is not just a trade organisation or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well. “Since 2003, the Common Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security,” Cautain shared during the first of the Ambassador Lecture Series.
He explained that over the past two years, the EU member states have been focusing on defence and security since the EU’s model of economic integration is also a unique opportunity to support engagement in the field of defence and develop collective defence capabilities.

Outlining some of the key points of the 2016 ‘Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy’, Ambassador Cautain said: “The EU is also working to strengthen the resilience of states within and outside its borders by supporting good governance and accountable institutions.”

Strengthening the internal and external nexus requires addressing issues such as counterterrorism, countering violent extremism, climate change and cyber security collectively, he stressed.

**Bilateral trade**
The ambassador lauded Pakistan’s efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership. “Over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalise a new engagement plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe, and hope that a new agreement will be signed under the new government after Pakistan’s general elections.”

He said that while EU member countries want to invest in ventures like CPEC, “greater clarity and more information about CPEC’s long-term vision is required for this to happen.” It is also vital to recognise that connectivity is not possible without regional stability, he said.

**Education and social sector**
Cautain discussed EU’s development cooperation in education, rural development and governance and said that the EU has decided to substantially increase the development cooperation funds allocated to Pakistan to 635 million euros which was double when compared with the previous years. He explained that one-third of this fund goes to the education sector channelled through the government conditional upon the achievement of targets set by the government itself. Education is a big challenge for Pakistan, especially in Sindh, since enrolment rates over the past 10 years have only increased by one per cent’, he remarked.

**Pakistan hands over terror dossier to Afghanistan**
IPRI’s President Ambassador (retd) Abdul Basit said that the EU relationship with Pakistan was very important, not only politically but also economically.

“Under the 2012 Five-Year Engagement Plan, this relationship has moved from strength-to-strength, with GSP Plus incentives helping Pakistan build its capacity in order to become a more effective and competitive partner in international commerce,” he said.

In the question-answer session, Ambassador Cautain answered questions regarding Europe’s migration policy, nuclear energy production and Turkey’s pending EU membership, as well as EU’s relationship with Russia and the EU position on Ukraine.

There were also questions about the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, especially about what the EU could do to help resolve the conflict.

*Published in The Express Tribune, July 5th, 2018.*

Envoy says EU looking into recent UN report on Kashmir
Islamabad
11 HOURS AGO BY STAFF REPORT

Jean Francois says EU not giving any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan

ISLAMABAD: European Union Ambassador to Pakistan Jean Francois Cautain on Wednesday said that the European grouping at present was working on the June 14 report of the UN Human Rights Office that called for an international inquiry into the Kashmir situation.

“In diplomacy, we keep the end goal in mind and here, the end goal is to make sure that the situation on both sides of the Line of Control (LoC) in Kashmiri gets improved,” he said in his lecture on the EU-Pakistan relations, challenges and opportunities, held here at the Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

Ambassador Jean Francois said that the European Union was engaged with India on a number of issues related to Kashmir. On trade, he said that the European Union was committed to build a solid and mutually-beneficial partnership with Pakistan. He emphasised that EU was not meting out any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan.

He assured support to Pakistan in consolidation of its path towards long-term economic development and prosperity. He said that the EU would assess its trade relations with Pakistan by reviewing the report on the GSP Plus, based on accurate and already-defined criteria, and also on the implementation of the 27 conventions linked to GSP Plus.

He said that the EU hoped that Pakistan would make the full use of the GSP Plus preferential agreement for the benefit of its citizens. He said that the EU was focusing on development of Pakistan’s provinces including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, however he emphasised that the continuity of funding would depend on the targets achieved.

Jean Francois acknowledged the contribution of Pakistan for hosting the Afghan refugees for four decades. However, he pointed out that the issue of their return would persist till stability in Afghanistan was achieved. “If there is no stability in Afghanistan, the people will always try to escape either to Pakistan or Iran,” he said.

He stressed that one of the keys to a stable Pakistan was to stabilise Afghanistan. To restrict illegal migrants from Pakistan to Europe, he said that EU was putting in place a plan with Pakistan so as to reduce the risk of such people falling into the nexus of human traffickers. Later, IPRI President Ambassador Abdul Basit presented memento to Ambassador Jean Francois Cautain.

EU commends Pak struggle against terrorism

July 5, 2018

‘EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges & Opportunities’

Mohammad Arshad
Islamabad

Acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism, Ambassador of the European Union Jean-Francois Cautain has said that the EU commends Pakistan’s struggle to combat violent extremists and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries. He acknowledged that Pakistan has suffered from extremism more than any other country, and stressed that Pakistan and the EU need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

The EU Ambassador pointed out that the EU is not just a trade organization or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well. ‘Since 2003, the Common Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security’, Cautain shared during the first of the Ambassador Lecture Series on ‘EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ here. Briefly sharing the history and background of the European Union model, he explained that over the past two years, the EU member states have been focusing on defence and security since the EU’s model of economic integration is also a unique opportunity to support engagement in the field of defence and develop collective defence capabilities.
Outlining some of the key points of the 2016 ‘Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy’, Ambassador Cautain said that the strategy sets out the EU’s core interests and principles for engaging in the wider world and gives the Union a collective sense of direction. ‘Decisive steps are being taken on security and defence. Building resilience at home and abroad means creating a more responsive union. The EU is also working to strengthen the resilience of states within and outside its borders by supporting good governance and accountable institutions. Strengthening the internal and external nexus requires addressing issues such as counterterrorism, countering violent extremism, climate change and cyber security collectively’, he stressed.

The Ambassador lauded Pakistan’s efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership. ‘Over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalise a new Engagement Plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe, and hope that a new agreement will be signed under the new government after Pakistan’s general elections. The Engagement Plan is an opportunity for both sides to benefit from multifaceted cooperation ranging from trade to security to numerous other issues, including terrorism,’ he said. Mr Cautain discussed EU’s development cooperation in education, rural development and governance and said that the EU has decided to substantially increase the development cooperation funds allocated to Pakistan to 635 million EUR which is double when compared to the previous years.

He explained that ‘One-third of this goes to the education sector channeled through the government conditional upon the achievement of targets set by the government itself. Education is a big challenge for Pakistan, especially in Sindh, since enrollment rates over the past ten years have only increased by 1 per cent’, he remarked.

<https://pakobserver.net/eu-Commends-pak-struggle-against-terrorism/>
EU looking into recent UN report on Kashmir human rights situation: EU ambassador to Pakistan

July 4, 2018

ISLAMABAD, Jul 4 (APP): European Union’s ambassador to Pakistan Jean Francois Cautain on Wednesday said the EU, at present, was working on the June 14 report of the UN Human Rights Office that called for an international inquiry into Kashmir situation.

“In diplomacy, we keel the end goal in mind and here, the end goal is to make sure that situation on both sides of Line of Control (LoC) gets improved,” the EU ambassador said in his lecture on ‘EU-Pakistan relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ held here at Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

The EU ambassador said European Union was engaged with India on a number of issues related to Kashmir.

On trade, he said European Union (EU) was committed to build a solid and mutually beneficial partnership with Pakistan.

He emphasized that EU was not meting out any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan. He assured support to Pakistan in consolidation of its path towards long-term economic development and prosperity.

EU Ambassador Jean Francois said the EU would assess its trade relations with Pakistan by reviewing the report on GSP Plus, based on accurate and already-defined criteria, and also on the implementation of the 27 international conventions linked to GSP Plus.

He said the EU hoped that Pakistan would make the full use of our GSP Plus preferential agreement for the benefit of its citizens.

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Later, President IPRI Ambassador Abdul Basit presented memento to EU ambassador Jean Francois Cautain.

ISLAMABAD, JUL 04 (DNA) – Acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism, H.E. Mr. Jean-Francois Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, said that the EU commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremists and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries.

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Discussing EU as one of the main trading partners of Pakistan accounting for the largest share of its global exports, he said that while EU member countries want to invest in ventures like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, ‘greater clarity and more information about CPEC’s long-term vision is required for this to happen.’ It is also vital to recognize that connectivity is not possible without regional stability, he said.

IPRI’s President Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit in his welcome address said that the European Union’s relationship with Pakistan is very important, not only politically but also economically. ‘Under the 2012 Five-Year Engagement Plan, this relationship has moved from strength-to-strength, with GSP Plus incentives helping Pakistan build its capacity in order to become a more effective and competitive partner in international commerce.

‘The EU will continue to be important for Pakistan despite UK’s exit since it has been a trailblazing organization, creating new templates for regional integration and connectivity.'
We, in Pakistan can learn from the EU, especially in the context of CPEC, to understand how the incentive of regional economic integration can help resolve bilateral political disputes, eventually paving the way for viable cooperative, intra-regional and inter-regional structures,’ he said.

In the Q/A session, Ambassador Cautain answered questions regarding Europe’s migration policy, nuclear energy production, Turkey’s pending EU membership, as well as EU’s relationship with Russia and the EU position on Ukraine.

There were also questions about the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, especially about what the EU could do to help resolve the conflict.

The participants expected the EU to be more vocal against the ongoing oppression of Kashmiris. They also raised the issue of migration and how the EU could learn from Pakistan which has been hosting more than 3 million Afghan refugees for more than 38 years.

Mr Cautain agreed that the government of Pakistan had worked tirelessly for the Afghan refugees, but at the same time pointed out that repatriation could not be possible till Afghanistan becomes stable and peaceful.

The issue of third-generation Afghans born and raised in Pakistan is also a complex mater, he pointed out. On Pakistan-India relations, he said, ‘if Germany and France can work together after being at war for so many years, peace and rapprochement between Pakistan and India is also possible.’=DNA

<http://www.dnanews.com.pk/eu-pakistan-relations-challenges-opportunities/>
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Ends-SABAH-TR-ZS

<http://www.sabahnews.net/130930>
Pakistan, EU need to work together to combat terrorism: Envoy

July 04, 2018

EU Ambassador to Pakistan Jean-Francois Cautain says European Union Pakistan need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

He was delivering a lecture at Islamabad Policy Research Institute on Wednesday.

The EU ambassador said European Union acknowledges the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism.

He said that the EU is not just a trade organization or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well.

The ambassador added that since 2003, the Common Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security.

The Ambassador lauded Pakistan's efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership.

He said over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalize a new Engagement Plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe.

EU Looking Into Recent UN Report on Kashmir Human Rights Situation: EU Ambassador To Pakistan

Mohammad Ali (@ChaudhryMAli88) 19 hours ago  Wed 04th July 2018 | 03:19 PM

European Union's ambassador to Pakistan Jean Francois Cautain on Tuesday said the EU, at present, was working on the June 14 report of the UN Human Rights Office that called for an international inquiry into Kashmir situation.

ISLAMABAD, (UrduPoint / Pakistan Point News - 4th Jul, 2018 ) : European Union's ambassador to Pakistan, Jean Francois Cautain on Tuesday said the EU, at present, was working on the June 14 report of the UN Human Rights Office that called for an international inquiry into Kashmir situation.

"In diplomacy, we keel the end goal in mind and here, the end goal is to make sure that situation on both sides of Line of Control (LoC) gets improved," the EU ambassador said in his lecture on 'EU-Pakistan relations: Challenges and Opportunities' held here at Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

The EU ambassador said European Union was engaged with India on a number of issues related to Kashmir.
On trade, he said European Union (EU) was committed to build a solid and mutually beneficial partnership with Pakistan. He emphasized that EU was not meting out any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan.

He assured support to Pakistan in consolidation of its path towards long-term economic development and prosperity.

EU Ambassador Jean Francois said the EU would assess its trade relations with Pakistan by reviewing the report on GSP Plus, based on accurate and already-defined criteria, and also on the implementation of the 27 international conventions linked to GSP Plus. He said the EU hoped that Pakistan would make the full use of our GSP Plus preferential agreement for the benefit of its citizens. He said the EU was focusing on development of Pakistan's provinces including Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, however emphasized that the continuity of funding would depend on the targets achieved. Jean Francois acknowledged the contribution of Pakistan for hosting Afghan refugees for four decades, however pointed that the issue of their return would persist till stability in the country was achieved. "If there is no stability in Afghanistan, the people will always try to escape either to Pakistan or Iran," he said.

He stressed that "one of the keys to a stable Pakistan was to stabilize Afghanistan". To restrict illegal migrants from Pakistan to Europe, he said EU was putting in place a plan with Pakistan so as to reduce the risk of such people falling into the nexus of human traffickers.

Later, President IPRI Ambassador Abdul Basit presented memento to EU ambassador Jean Francois Cautain.

EU looking into recent UN report on Kashmir human rights situation, says ambassador

Pakistan

by Associated Press of Pakistan | Published on July 4, 2018

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He emphasized that EU was not meting out any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan, assuring support to Pakistan the in consolidation of its path towards long-term economic development and prosperity.

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He said the EU hoped that Pakistan would make the full use of our GSP Plus preferential agreement for the benefit of its citizens.

He said the EU was focusing on the development of Pakistan’s provinces including Khyber Pukhtunkhwa, Sindh and Balochistan, however, emphasized that the continuity of funding would depend on the targets achieved.

Jean Francois acknowledged the contribution of Pakistan for hosting Afghan refugees for four decades, however, pointed that the issue of their return would persist till stability in the country was achieved.

“If there is no stability in Afghanistan, the people will always try to escape either to Pakistan or Iran,” he said.

He stressed that “one of the keys to a stable Pakistan was to stabilize Afghanistan”.

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To restrict illegal migrants from Pakistan to Europe, he said EU was putting in place a plan with Pakistan so as to reduce the risk of such people falling into the nexus of human traffickers.

Later, President IPRI Ambassador Abdul Basit presented memento to EU ambassador Jean Francois Cautain.

SRINAGAR – European Union’s ambassador to Pakistan Jean Francois Cautain on Tuesday said the EU, at present, was working on the June 14 report of the UN Human Rights Office that called for an international inquiry into Kashmir situation.

“In diplomacy, we keep the end goal in mind and here, the end goal is to make sure that situation on both sides of Line of Control (LoC) gets improved,” the EU ambassador said in his lecture on ‘EU-Pakistan relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ held here at Islamabad Policy Research Institute (IPRI).

The EU ambassador said European Union was engaged with India on a number of issues related to Kashmir.

On trade, he said European Union (EU) was committed to building a solid and mutually beneficial partnership with Pakistan.

He emphasized that EU was not meting out any preferential treatment to India over Pakistan, assuring support to Pakistan the in consolidation of its path towards long-term economic development and prosperity.

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EU members want to invest in CPEC-Greater Clarity & More Information is Required; Ambassador Cautain

Founder Editor Tazeen Akhtar.

Islamabad(Staff Reporter)Acknowledging the efforts made by Pakistan and its sacrifices to combat terrorism, H.E. Mr. Jean-Francois Cautain, Ambassador of the European Union to Pakistan, said that the EU commends Pakistan in its struggle to combat violent extremists and terrorism which is a challenge even for EU member countries. He acknowledged that Pakistan has suffered from extremism more than any other country, and stressed that Pakistan and the EU need to work together to combat terrorism, both within and outside their borders for global peace and security.

The EU Ambassador pointed out that the EU is not just a trade organization or large development agency, as it is now significantly engaged in the area of security and defence as well. ‘Since 2003, the Common Security and Defence Policy has enabled the EU to take a leading role in peace-keeping operations, conflict prevention and in the strengthening of international security’, Mr Cautain shared during the first of the Ambassador Lecture Series on ‘EU-Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities’ organized by the Islamabad Policy Research Institute, here in Islamabad, today.

Briefly sharing the history and background of the European Union model, he explained that over the past two years, the EU member states have been focusing on defence and security since the EU’s model of economic integration is also a unique opportunity to support engagement in the field of defence and develop collective defence capabilities. Outlining some of the key points of the 2016 ‘Global Strategy for the European Union’s Foreign and Security Policy’, Ambassador Cautain said that the strategy sets out the EU’s core interests and principles for engaging in the wider world and gives the Union a collective sense of direction. ‘Decisive steps are being taken on security and defence. Building resilience at home and abroad means creating a more responsive union. The EU is also working to strengthen the resilience of states within and outside its borders by supporting good governance and accountable institutions. Strengthening the internal and external nexus requires addressing issues such as counterterrorism, countering violent extremism, climate change and cyber security collectively’, he stressed.

The Ambassador lauded Pakistan’s efforts in terms of trade enhancement after the GSP Plus facility, and outlined that this was a win-win partnership. ‘Over the past 18 months, we have been working to finalize a new Engagement Plan to further deepen relations between Pakistan and Europe, and hope that a new agreement will be signed under the new government after Pakistan’s general elections. The Engagement Plan is an opportunity for both sides to benefit from multifaceted cooperation ranging from trade to security to numerous other issues, including terrorism,’ he said. Mr Cautain discussed EU’s development cooperation in education, rural development and governance and said that the EU has decided to substantially increase the development cooperation funds allocated to Pakistan to 635 million EUR which is double when compared to the previous years. He explained that ‘One-third of this goes to the education sector channeled through the government conditional upon the achievement of targets set by the government itself. Education is a big challenge for Pakistan, especially in Sindh, since enrollment rates over the past ten years have only increased by 1 per cent’, he remarked.
Discussing EU as one of the main trading partners of Pakistan accounting for the largest share of its global exports, he said that while EU member countries want to invest in ventures like the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor, ‘greater clarity and more information about CPEC’s long-term vision is required for this to happen.’ It is also vital to recognize that connectivity is not possible without regional stability, he said.

IPRI’s President Ambassador (R) Abdul Basit in his welcome address said that the European Union’s relationship with Pakistan is very important, not only politically but also economically. ‘Under the 2012 Five-Year Engagement Plan, this relationship has moved from strength-to-strength, with GSP Plus incentives helping Pakistan build its capacity in order to become a more effective and competitive partner in international commerce. ‘The EU will continue to be important for Pakistan despite UK’s exit since it has been a trailblazing organization, creating new templates for regional integration and connectivity. We, in Pakistan can learn from the EU, especially in the context of CPEC, to understand how the incentive of regional economic integration can help resolve bilateral political disputes, eventually paving the way for viable cooperative, intra-regional and inter-regional structures,’ he said.

In the Q/A session, Ambassador Cautain answered questions regarding Europe’s migration policy, nuclear energy production, Turkey’s pending EU membership, as well as EU’s relationship with Russia and the EU position on Ukraine. There were also questions about the Jammu and Kashmir dispute, especially about what the EU could do to help resolve the conflict. The participants expected the EU to be more vocal against the ongoing oppression of Kashmiris. They also raised the issue of migration and how the EU could learn from Pakistan which has been hosting more than 3 million Afghan refugees for more than 38 years. Mr Cautain agreed that the government of Pakistan had worked tirelessly for the Afghan refugees, but at the same time pointed out that repatriation could not be possible till Afghanistan becomes stable and peaceful. The issue of third-generation Afghans born and raised in Pakistan is also a complex matter, he pointed out. On Pakistan-India relations, he said, ‘if Germany and France can work together after being at war for so many years, peace and rapprochement between Pakistan and India is also possible.’

04 July 2018

<http://www.pakistanintheworld.com/content/eu-members-want-invest-cpec-greater-clarity-more-information-required-ambassador-cautain>
پاکستان کی دوشکاری گروہ کی حفاظت بجلی اور افغان مہاجرین کے لیے قیمتی سلسلے کے نحایت بہترین نوید ہے۔

اس بات کا مطلب ہے کہ افغان مہاجرین کی ایک سیرت ہے جس کا تھوڑا کام منفی ہے کہ اس کی س균اہنگیں اور افغان مہاجرین کے لیے قیمی سلسلے کے نجات کے لیے مکمل کرنا چاہئے۔

پاکستان کی دوشکاری گروہ کی حفاظت بجلی اور افغان مہاجرین کے لیے قیمتی سلسلے کے نجات کے لیے مکمل کرنا چاہئے۔
اسلام آپ کا سلامتی دیکھنے تو آپ کو ہماری گرمی اور عید کی بہتری کو ہمارا بہترین سپردہ بھی کہنا چاہتا ہے۔

سماوات کے عواموں پر خوشخبری سے ہے جس سے بہت سائیکل میں ملے ہمارا اسلام آپ کی لڑائی میں بھی کوئی خیال کی ہدایت کے "رضا اللہ"

ایک چند صحنی اوردین مناسبت عید میں فرود ہوئے۔ انہوں نے اس کی وہ وائی میں ایک تقریب کے لئے فرمائہ۔ ان کا کہنا تھا کہ ہمارا اسلام آپ کی لڑائی میں بھی کوئی خیال کی ہدایت کے "رضا اللہ"

< http://www.sabahnews.net urdu/?p=99671 >
یورپی یونین نے بھی قربانیوں کا اعتراف کرلیا؛ تو پہر گرہ لست مین کیوں؟

جیسا کہ منظور بار کہا جا چکا ہے کہ منری ممالک کی حکم جمہوریہ پاکستان کی دوریہ پر بوری پس تو دبیشندگی کیخلاف اسلام آباد کی قربانیوں کا اعتراف کرنا بہت تازہ کیا جا رہتا ہے۔ ملک کی ڈیپلومیک ممالک کے دوران بوری سرمائی کرنے میں لمحہ جھیرے گئے تھے۔

04 جولائی 2018 - 21 | پاکستان ایجاد

خبر رسان ادارے تفصیل کے مطابق پاکستان میں یورپی یونین کی سفیر فرانس کی جمہوریہ پاکستان کو عالمی سطح پر اور سیکورٹی کیلئے دبیش گردن کا مقابلہ کرنا ضرورت پہر۔

وہ اسلام آباد پالیسی رپورٹر انسٹیٹیشن نیوز میں ایک لیکچر دے رہے ہیں۔

ریڈیو پاکستان کی رپورٹ کے مطابق یورپی یونین کی سفیر کی جمہوریہ پاکستان کی کوشش کی ہے کہ بورپی یونین میں بھی کیلئے یورپی یونین کی کوشش کو تسلیم کرنے پہر۔

ایہ بورپی یونین محسوس کردیا ہے اور زیر وضاحت ایک بہت ترقیاتی ادوار نے کیونکہ یورپی سیاست میں دفاع کے شعبوں میں قابل ذکر کام کر پچھلے ہیں۔

سیریز کہا کہ 2003ء میں عالمی سیکورٹی اور وفاقی کے باعث یورپی یونین کی امریکہ، انگلینڈ، جنوبی افریقہ کو ممناسبة بنانے کے لئے ملک کے کردار ادا کر رہی ہیں۔

ایہ بورپی یونین کی بھی کیلئے کہ سیکورٹی اور وفاقی کے ساتھ پاکستان کی کوشش کو سرما میں پر واقع ہے کہ یہ کیسے شراکت داری پر بھی بورپی یونین کا اثر کہ کہ یہ کم کر پچھلے ممالک نے کلیے تمغہات کی نئی منصوبہ کی حمایت تکلیف کیلئے کام کر رہی پچھلے ہیں۔

Pre-Event Coverage

NHT
National Herald Tribune

IPRI holding a lecture tomorrow

Ambassador EU Abdul Basit requests the distinguished guests to attend a lecture on "EU Pakistan Relations: Challenges and Opportunities" by H.E. Mr. Jean Francois Caetanin, Ambassador, European Union to Pakistan on Wednesday, July 4 from 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm at IPRI Conference Hall, 5th Floor, Excelsior Trust Complex, Sir Aga Khan Road, F-5/1, Islamabad. Tel: 051-9219346-49.