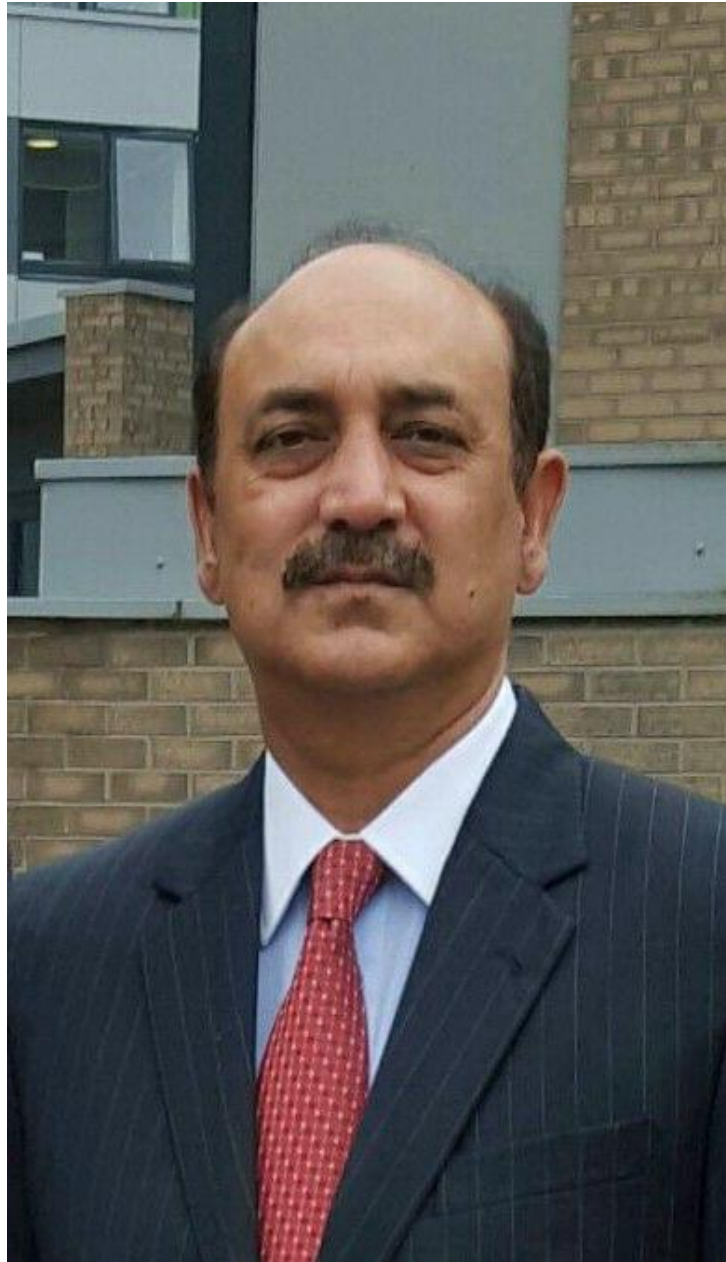


Diplomacy for Prosperity: Pakistan Calls for Continued U.S.–Iran Engagement



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ISLAMABAD/BIRMINGHAM: The evolving relationship between Iran and the United States has entered a cautious phase marked by renewed diplomatic engagement, strategic negotiations, and continued mistrust following years of sanctions, military tensions, and disputes over Iran's nuclear program.

Recent indirect talks between the two countries have focused on sanctions relief, nuclear safeguards, maritime security in the Strait of Hormuz, and broader confidence-building measures. However, significant differences remain over the scope of Iran's nuclear activities and the conditions required for easing economic sanctions. While the discussions are widely viewed as a positive step toward de-escalation, they have not yet produced a comprehensive or lasting agreement.

Regional and international stakeholders continue to closely monitor these developments due to their broader implications for Middle Eastern stability and global energy markets, particularly in relation to energy security and international trade routes.

In this context, Pakistan is highlighted as playing a constructive and balanced diplomatic role.

Sharing a long border with Iran while maintaining longstanding strategic ties with the United

States, Pakistan is uniquely positioned to encourage dialogue and regional stability.

Islamabad has consistently supported peaceful resolution of disputes through diplomacy rather than confrontation, emphasizing respect for sovereignty, non-interference, and international law. It has also sought to maintain balanced relations with both Tehran and Washington, avoiding policies that could further escalate regional tensions.

As a neighboring state, Pakistan has a direct interest in western border stability, counterterrorism cooperation, lawful trade facilitation, and regional connectivity through infrastructure and energy initiatives. It has also supported dialogue-focused initiatives in regional and international forums aimed at promoting confidence-building measures.

A stable U.S.–Iran relationship would reduce the risk of conflict while opening opportunities for expanded trade, improved energy security, and sustainable economic development across South Asia, the Middle East, and beyond.

Ultimately, while major challenges remain, continued diplomatic engagement supported by responsible regional stakeholders, including Pakistan, offers the most viable pathway toward long-term peace, stability, and prosperity.

—Tahmeed Sadiq, Birmingham, UK