

Final Report

This presentation is significant for Pakistan Studies for two main reasons. First, the paper (and subsequently the presentation) focuses on understanding the concept of state-sponsorship of terrorism. Pakistan has been accused of sponsoring terrorist and terrorist-like groups for numerous years now. While geostrategic rationales remain at the forefront for explaining such behavior, there has been less focus on other reasons for why a state like Pakistan would use terrorist-like groups. Second, this paper has used the Copenhagen School's securitization theory to explain how Pakistan's national interests have been securitized and how such securitization has facilitated Pakistan's sponsorship of various terrorist groups. The presentation aimed to provide a theoretical contribution to understanding how national interests are formed.