

## RESEARCHED AND COMPILED BY THE REFUGEE DOCUMENTATION CENTRE OF IRELAND ON 13 MAY 2024

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### DISCLAIMER

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. All COI Query Responses are compiled in line with the Common EU Guidelines (2008) and the EUAA Methodology (2023). This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to international protection. Please refer to all documents cited.

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### COI QUERY RESPONSE

#### PAKISTAN - SECURITY

The *Associated Press* in May 2024 states that: “...an Islamabad-based think tank said that militant assaults killed 70 people nationwide in April, mostly in northwest Khyber Pakhtunkhwa province. The Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies also said the country experienced 323 militant attacks in the first four months of the year, resulting in 324 deaths.”<sup>1</sup>

In April 2024 the *Agence France Presse* states that: “Pakistan is battling a surge in militant violence on its territory...”<sup>2</sup>

The *Economist Intelligence Unit* states in April 2024 that the: “...security environment...[has] deteriorated sharply over the past few years, including an escalation in terrorist incidents in 2023.”<sup>3</sup>

In April 2024 the *Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies* states that: “...Despite a surge in high-profile attacks, overall militant activities notably decreased during March 2024...”<sup>4</sup>

In March 2024 *Amnesty International* states that: “Lethal attacks on people, law enforcement agencies, state functionaries and political leaders have been a long-standing security and public order challenge in Pakistan. There has been a marked increase in the number of security-related attacks and deaths in the country in the last 12 months, particularly in the lead-up to the 2024 General Election where offices, residences and election convoys of multiple political parties have come under firing and

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<sup>1</sup> *Associated Press* (2 May 2024) *Double land mine blasts kill one person and wound at least 18 in Pakistan’s southwest*

<sup>2</sup> *Agence France Presse* (19 April 2024) *Japanese nationals targeted in Pakistan suicide attack: officials*

<sup>3</sup> *Economist Intelligence Unit* (2 April 2024) *Attacks on Chinese nationals will continue in Pakistan*

<sup>4</sup> *Pakistan Institute for Conflict and Security Studies* (1 April 2024) *March 2024: A Decline in Overall Militant Attacks, Rise in High Profile Incidents*

grenade attacks, candidates and political workers have been targeted, and some have been murdered. It has been reported that in January and February 2024 alone 177 people have been killed and 253 injured in attacks. A majority of the violence was in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan.”<sup>5</sup>

The *International Crisis Group* in February 2024 includes commentary about: “...militant threats...”<sup>6</sup>

A report issued in February 2024 by the *Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project* comments on: “...rising militancy...”<sup>7</sup>

## References

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<sup>5</sup> Amnesty International (25 March 2024) *Human Rights Charter— Pakistan*, p.12

<sup>6</sup> International Crisis Group (6 February 2024) *Pakistan: Inching toward Contested Elections*, p.15

<sup>7</sup> Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project (1 February 2024) *Political Repression and Militant Targeting Set the Stage for Pakistan’s 2024 Elections*, p.1

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