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COI QUERY RESPONSE

PAKISTAN – PAKISTAN TEHREEK-E-INSAF

In November 2024 the *International Crisis Group* includes commentary on the: “...government...crackdown on PTI supporters...”¹

A report issued in December 2024 by the *European Union Agency for Asylum* states that: “Alleged crackdown on supporters of Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) by Pakistani authorities continued in 2024...with reported arrests of PTI-affiliated supporters...”²

In January 2025 *Agence France Presse* states that: “Khan's supporters and senior lieutenants in his Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI) party have faced a severe crackdown, with thousands rounded up...”³

A publication released in February 2025 by *Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty* states that: “Scores of PTI members and leaders over the past two years have been targeted for protesting the jailing of Khan and the military's alleged meddling in politics.”⁴

In April 2025 the *Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia* states that: “Human rights organisations report Pakistan’s authorities have targeted PTI leaders and their family members with enforced disappearances, arrest and imprisonment (sometimes on multiple instances) on the basis of their political opinions. According to in-country sources, Pakistan’s government, military and

¹ International Crisis Group (28 November 2024) Disputed Polls and Political Furies: Handling Pakistan’s Deadlock, p.ii

² European Union Agency for Asylum (December 2024) Pakistan – Country Focus, p.123

³ Agence France Presse (28 January 2025) Pakistan outlaws disinformation with 3-year jail term

⁴ Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (8 February 2025) Pakistan's Opposition Takes To Streets On Anniversary Of Disputed Elections

security services have sought to weaken the PTI by putting pressure on its leaders through ‘pre-emptive detention...’⁵

This report also states that: “DFAT assesses PTI leaders face a high risk of official discrimination and violence in the form of harassment, arrest, imprisonment, and enforced disappearance. DFAT assesses lower profile PTI members and supporters who do not publicly advocate for PTI interests or lead protests face a low risk of official discrimination in the form of harassment and arrest. DFAT assesses PTI members and supporters generally do not face societal discrimination or violence.”⁶

References

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⁵ Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Australia (30 April 2025) DFAT Country Information Report Pakistan, p.55

⁶ *ibid*, p.55

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