

Abstract

This research work is an attempt to highlight the regional geopolitical implications of withdrawal of US forces from Afghanistan. The research aims at three-dimensional approach reporting all aspects of post-withdrawal scenario in Afghanistan, how the power vacuum, created by the withdrawal of US forces, has made Afghanistan a fulcrum for the regional actors, and what can be the possible practicable policy options for Pakistan being the neighbouring country. The sudden US withdrawal from Afghanistan has disturbed the balance of power in the region and all the involved actor states are willing to enhance their influence in the region through using the influence in Afghanistan. This opportunity for the regional powers contains many challenges, first to be looked after. Hence, the research provides a thorough description of challenges and opportunities for the regional countries.

To understand the post withdrawal Afghanistan situation in appropriate way, the study includes a detailed historiographical survey of Afghanistan. Different theoretical perspectives are discussed to understand all the possible implications of post withdrawal. The possible scenario of Afghanistan becoming a fulcrum for the regional actors is also depicted in the research following the recent developments made by the countries like Russia, China, Iran, India and Pakistan.

In the end, keeping all the aspects in mind, the study proposes some possible policy options for Pakistan mainly included diplomatic strategies, border security and anti-terrorism policies regarding post withdrawal Afghanistan crisis. Conclusively, the research has tried to provide an extensive content analysis report on the basis of ongoing events, developments and conditions in post withdrawal Afghanistan and the region as well.