

AMBASSADOR MUNIR AKRAM
FORMER PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS FROM PAKISTAN

Since joining the Foreign Service of Pakistan in 1967, Ambassador Munir Akram had a distinguished and unparalleled diplomatic career. As Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York from 2002 to 2008, he has represented Pakistan in numerous United Nations bodies and international conferences. Most significantly, he served two terms as President of the UN Security Council, President of the UN Economic and Social Council, Chairman of the Group of 77 Developing Nations and China, President of the UN Conference on Disarmament, and Chairman of the World Trade Organization's Trade Policy Review Committee.

From 1995 to 2002 he represented Pakistan as Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, and prior to that Munir Akram filled a number of important diplomatic positions, including Vice-Foreign Minister (1992-1995); Ambassador of Pakistan to the European Community, Belgium, and Luxembourg (1988-1992); Director for UN Economic Cooperation and Policy Planning, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Geneva (1985-1988); and as Minister/Counselor in Pakistan's Embassy to Japan in Tokyo (1982-1985).

Over the course of a 40-year diplomatic career, Ambassador Akram developed close personal relationships with senior government and business leaders in the Middle East, China, and many of the developed and developing nations as a result of his leadership role in addressing some of the important political, security, and economic issues facing these countries and regions. Among other achievements, Ambassador Akram successfully chaired the negotiations for the accession of Saudi Arabia and Oman into the WTO. He also led the developing countries in the negotiations at the WTO ministerial conferences in Singapore, Seattle, and Doha.

Since retiring from the diplomatic service in August 2008, Ambassador Akram operates a private consulting company, Gorntazy Consultants, whose strategic objective is to help its American and European clients build relationships in the Middle East and Asia, particularly China, with a view of raising capital from these regions and creating strong links between investors, governments, and Gorntazy's clients.

Ambassador Akram has become known for his expertise in utilizing relationships and political knowledge of the Middle East and China to effect change in business behaviors and investment strategies, and to promote private/public partnerships. His advice is sought by financial institutions, corporate

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interests, and government leaders on economic issues being faced and how strategic partnerships can advance long term objectives on both sides.

Ambassador Akram writes and lectures extensively on political and economic issues relating to these regions as well as global issues. He continues to serve as Special Advisor to several United Nations agencies. Ambassador Akram holds master's in political science and a bachelor of law degree.

TOPICS:

- What the United States Policy & Goals Should Be in Pakistan & Afghanistan, and How They Can Be Obtained
- Economic Development & Climate Change
- Nuclear Proliferation & Policy