

# **GEOPOLITICS**

## **Frameworks and Dynamics in a Multipolar World**

Aneela Shahzad



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Geopolitics  
Frameworks and Dynamics in a Multipolar World

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## Reviews

*International relations have often been described as an American discipline. One important consequence of this Western orientation has been that the discipline has been dominated by American geopolitical concerns. Challenging this key assumption, the author has brought into play the impact of new forces like technological innovation, modernity, and change to capture the transformation of the emerging international system. The net result is an in-depth study of the ongoing processes of social change in the international system and how the behavior of its constituent units is being shaped and modified by these processes. The author has ably used case studies from different regions of the world to understand the new dynamics of the emerging international order. It is an extremely useful text for all those interested in understanding the interplay between geography, economy, ideology, and technology in a multipolar world.*

– **Dr. Syed Rifaat Hussain**

HOD, Dept. of Government Policy and Public Administration,  
School of Social Sciences and Humanities, NUST, Islamabad

*For centuries, Western political thought has dominated the global academic discourse, with Eurocentric power politics serving as the predominant premise of state policies. However, the rise of the East and the concentration of conflicting geopolitical and geo-economic security interests in Asia have opened new avenues for analysis. The shifting balance of power from unipolarity to multipolarity presents new challenges for analysis and prediction. In this context, ‘decolonial discourse’ has emerged as the new norm in academic parlance and policy formulation. Against this backdrop, this book provides a much-needed window to understand the ‘others’ worldview and draw alternate lessons. It embarks on a philosophical journey through specific regions and states, providing an objective foundation for generating new debates on the theoretical and empirical issues confronting the states in today’s global and regional security environment.*

– **Prof. Nazir Hussain**

Member Board of Directors, Regional Centre for Strategic  
Studies, Colombo, Sri Lanka

*This book is a continuation of Aneela Shahzad's efforts to build the discipline of geopolitics on firmer ground with an acute and empathetic sensitivity to the gaps left by the mainstream literature on geopolitics. Instead of contesting the intentions or capacities of acclaimed theoreticians of geopolitics, she deploys her energies in presenting the diversity of perspectives, which the emergence of a polycentric world is validating. Despite the increasing salience of financial and digital power as major aids to national statecraft over the past 20 years, geography remains crucial in international relations. This book strikes a balance between geography, international politics, and economics while focusing on almost all the major geopolitical developments during the past few years, particularly in our region, which have shaped the multipolar reality of the world. Our academia, research, and policy communities require quality primers that are rich in both theory and case studies, and this book is a prime example. Aneela's work is poised to elevate the entire discipline and enrich the ongoing debate and research into the various dimensions of geostrategy.*

**– Dr. Safdar Sohail**

Executive Director, Social Protection Resource Centre,  
Islamabad

*As the world transitions from a unipolar to a multipolar order, understanding the stance of developing countries amidst these tectonic shifts is crucial. In this groundbreaking book on geopolitics in a multipolar world, Aneela Shahzad makes a compelling case for why indigenous perspectives, especially from regions often sidelined in Western-centric discourses, are vital. As the world navigates the complexities of multipolarity, her book is an essential read for scholars, policymakers, and anyone interested in a more comprehensive approach to global politics. It challenges readers to consider how developing countries perceive and engage with the shifting global order, offering a fresh and much-needed narrative on the importance of regional voices in shaping our geopolitical future.*

**– Dr. Khuram Iqbal**

Assoc. Prof., Dept. of International Relations, Editor, *Journal of Contemporary Studies*, National Defence University, Islamabad

*Chinese President Xi Jinping stated last year, “There are changes happening in the global landscape, the likes of which we haven’t seen for 100 years.” Aneela Shahzad’s book spells out this profound transformation in geopolitics in a scholarly fashion. Strategic realignment, transforming patterns of economic and trade interactions among states, the disruptive impact of technologies, non-traditional security threats, complexities of ideologically driven foreign policies, and power contestation have added new challenges for countries. Against the backdrop of the rapidly evolving global dynamics and inter-state relations, developing countries like Pakistan will have to reorient their policies for the protection of their national interests. For the effective pursuit of foreign policy, it is imperative to ensure economic and political stability. This book’s chapter on ASEAN offers a valuable lesson. ASEAN countries have maintained a successful balance with the two main rivals, the US and China, through the ‘centrality of ASEAN principle.’ This has been made possible by the sustained economic growth and trade dynamism of these nations.*

**– Ambassador (r) Jalil Abbas Jilani**

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