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## “CPEC: Internal & external threats”

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Write an Essay on “**What are the internal and external threats to CPEC**” for CSS and PMS Exams.

By [CSSMCQs.Com](http://CSSMCQs.Com)

### OUTLINE:

#### **I. Introduction**

- Definition & explanation of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC)
- CPEC is a major project that is part of China’s Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)

#### **II. Overview of internal and external threats to CPEC**

#### **III. Internal threats to CPEC**

1. Corruption: potential for corruption in project implementation
2. Security risks: terrorism and insurgency could disrupt project implementation
3. Insufficient capacity: lack of technical and human resources to implement projects
4. Political instability: changes in government or shifts in policy could affect project direction and priorities
5. Mismanagement: There are concerns that the projects included in CPEC may not be well-managed
6. Social and economic tensions: The construction of new roads or the development of special economic zones, could lead to social and economic tensions
7. Lack of public support: There is a risk that the projects included in CPEC may not have the support of the general public
8. Limited capacity to absorb investment: Pakistan’s economy may not have the capacity to effectively absorb the large-scale investments
9. Lack of coordination: There is a risk that the different projects included in CPEC may not be well-coordinated

10. Limited local participation: There is a risk that the local population may not feel that they are benefitting from the projects
11. Infrastructure constraints: Pakistan’s infrastructure may not be sufficient to support the implementation of the projects
12. Economic constraints: Pakistan’s economy may not have the capacity to absorb the large-scale investments

#### **IV. External threats to CPEC**

1. Competition: other countries may try to undermine or disrupt the project
2. Geopolitical tensions: tensions between China and other countries, particularly the US, could affect the security and stability of CPEC projects
3. Environmental concerns: some projects could have negative environmental impacts
4. Balancing regional interests: close relationship with China could lead to tensions with other countries and regions
5. Geopolitical risks: The region where CPEC projects are being implemented, particularly the western province of Baluchistan
6. Economic risks: The economic viability of some of the projects included in CPEC may be uncertain
7. Diplomatic risks: The close relationship between China and Pakistan could lead to tensions with other countries
8. International economic risks: The global economic environment could pose a risk to the projects included in CPEC
9. Geopolitical tensions: Tensions between China and other countries, particularly the United States, could also pose a threat to CPEC
10. Technological risks: There is a risk that the projects included in CPEC may become obsolete or uneconomic due to technological change
11. Political instability: The political situation in Pakistan could also pose a risk to CPEC. If the country were to experience significant political instability
12. Competition from other projects: Other infrastructure and development projects in the region could pose a threat to CPEC
13. Social and economic tensions: The projects included in CPEC could also lead to social and economic tensions, such as local resentment over the displacement

#### **V. Conclusion**

- Importance of addressing internal and external threats to ensure the success of CPEC
- Need for strong leadership, transparent communication, and commitment to addressing the concerns of all stakeholders

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## CPEC: Internal & external threats

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is a major infrastructure and development project that aims to bring significant benefits to Pakistan. However, like any major project, it faces a number of internal and external threats that could potentially disrupt or undermine its success. These [threats](#) come from a range of sources and could affect different aspects of the project, from its implementation to its economic viability. Here, the leading internal and external threats to CPEC will be examined thoroughly, and their potential impacts on the project will also be explored.

The China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) is an expansion project of China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The BRI is a global development strategy that aims to boost economic development and connectivity in countries along the traditional Silk Road. It involves investments in infrastructure, such as roads, railways, ports, and power plants, as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges. CPEC is one of the key projects under the BRI, and it involves significant investments by the Chinese government in Pakistan's transportation, energy, and industrial sectors. It is expected to bring economic benefits to both China and Pakistan, and to help improve connectivity between the two countries.

CPEC is a significant infrastructure and development initiative that aims to bring substantial advantages to Pakistan. However, as with any large project, it is vulnerable to a number of internal and external threats that could potentially obstruct or compromise its success. These dangers come from a variety of sources and could affect various aspects of the project, including its implementation and economic viability. It will be essential for Pakistan and China to collaborate and address these threats in order to ensure the long-term success of the project. Internal threats to CPEC come from within Pakistan and could include corruption, security risks, insufficient capacity to implement the projects, and political instability. There is also a risk of lack of coordination among the different projects, limited local participation, infrastructure constraints, and economic constraints. External threats to CPEC come from outside Pakistan and could include competition from other countries or projects, geopolitical tensions, environmental concerns, and the need to balance regional interests.

There are a number of internal threats to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor

(CPEC). Some of the main internal threats include:

**Corruption:** There are concerns about the potential for corruption in the implementation of the projects included in CPEC, which could undermine the integrity of the project and the trust of the public in the government. For example, there have been allegations of kickbacks and other forms of corruption in the award of contracts for CPEC projects.

**Security:** The security situation in Pakistan has improved in recent years, but the country still faces a number of security challenges, including terrorism and insurgency. These threats could disrupt the implementation of the projects included in CPEC. For example, there have been attacks on Chinese workers and infrastructure associated with CPEC projects in the past.

**Insufficient capacity:** Pakistan may lack the technical and human resources needed to effectively implement the projects included in CPEC, which could lead to delays or other problems. For example, Pakistan may not have the trained personnel or the necessary equipment to construct and maintain the infrastructure projects included in CPEC.

**Political instability:** Political instability in Pakistan could also pose a threat to CPEC, as changes in government or shifts in policy could affect the direction and priorities of the project. For example, if a new government were to come to power in Pakistan that had different priorities or a different approach to China, it could disrupt the implementation of CPEC projects.

**Bureaucratic delays:** The bureaucracy in Pakistan can be slow and inefficient, which could lead to delays in the implementation of CPEC projects. For example, it can take a long time to secure the necessary approvals and permits for construction projects, which could slow down the progress of CPEC.

**Mismanagement:** There are concerns that the projects included in CPEC may not be well-managed, which could lead to cost overruns, delays, or other problems. For example, there have been reports of poor planning and mismanagement of the construction of the Gwadar port, which has led to delays and cost overruns.

**Social and economic tensions:** Some of the projects included in CPEC, such as the construction of new roads or the development of special economic zones, could lead to social and economic tensions. For example, local communities may resent the displacement or disruption caused by the projects, or they may feel that they are not benefitting from the

development.

**Lack of public support:** There is a risk that the projects included in CPEC may not have the support of the general public, which could lead to opposition or protests. For example, there have been protests by local communities over the environmental impacts of some of the projects, such as the coal-fired power plant in Gwadar.

**Limited capacity to absorb investment:** Pakistan’s economy may not have the capacity to effectively absorb the large-scale investments included in CPEC, which could lead to problems such as inflation or asset bubbles. For example, there have been concerns about the impact of the influx of Chinese investment on Pakistan’s real estate market.

**Lack of coordination:** There is a risk that the different projects included in CPEC may not be well-coordinated, which could lead to duplication of efforts or conflicting priorities. For example, if different agencies or departments are working on different projects without sufficient coordination, it could lead to delays or inefficiencies.

**Limited local participation:** There is a risk that the local population may not feel that they are benefitting from the projects included in CPEC, which could lead to resentment or opposition. For example, if local businesses or workers are not included in the supply chains or employment opportunities associated with the projects, it could lead to social tensions.

**Infrastructure constraints:** Pakistan’s infrastructure may not be sufficient to support the implementation of the projects included in CPEC, which could lead to delays or other problems. For example, if there are insufficient roads, ports, or other transportation infrastructure to support the movement of materials and workers to the project sites, it could lead to delays in the construction process.

**Economic constraints:** Pakistan’s economy may not have the capacity to absorb the large-scale investments included in CPEC, which could lead to problems such as inflation or asset bubbles. For example, if the influx of Chinese investment leads to an asset bubble in the real estate market, it could have negative consequences for the economy.

On the other hand, there are also a number of external threats to the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC). Some of the main external threats include:

**Competition:** Other countries may see CPEC as a threat to their own interests and try to undermine or disrupt the project. For example, India has been a vocal critic of CPEC, as it

passes through the disputed territory of Gilgit-Baltistan, which India claims as part of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Geopolitical tensions:** Tensions between China and other countries, particularly the United States, could also pose a threat to CPEC, as the project is seen as a key element of China's Belt and Road Initiative. If relations between China and the US were to deteriorate significantly, it could affect the security and stability of CPEC projects.

**Environmental concerns:** Some of the projects included in CPEC, such as coal-fired power plants, could have negative environmental impacts, which could attract opposition from local communities or environmental groups. For example, there have been protests over the environmental impacts of the coal-fired power plant in the port city of Gwadar.

**Balancing regional interests:** Pakistan will need to carefully balance its relationship with China and its other international relationships, as an overly close alignment with China could lead to tensions with other countries and regions. For example, Pakistan's close relationship with China could lead to tensions with the US, which is Pakistan's traditional ally.

**Geopolitical risks:** The region where CPEC projects are being implemented, particularly the western province of Baluchistan, is politically and socially volatile, and there is a risk that the projects could become targets of violence or sabotage. For example, there have been attacks on Chinese workers and infrastructure associated with CPEC projects in the past.

**Economic risks:** The economic viability of some of the projects included in CPEC may be uncertain, and there is a risk that they could fail to deliver the expected economic benefits. For example, there have been concerns about the profitability of the Gwadar port, which is a key element of CPEC.

**Diplomatic risks:** The close relationship between China and Pakistan could lead to tensions with other countries, particularly India, which has been a vocal critic of CPEC. For example, India has expressed concerns about the presence of Chinese workers and infrastructure in Gilgit-Baltistan, which India claims as part of Jammu and Kashmir.

**Environmental risks:** Some of the projects included in CPEC, such as coal-fired power plants, could have negative environmental impacts, which could lead to opposition from local communities or environmental groups. For example, there have been protests over the environmental impacts of the coal-fired power plant in the port city of Gwadar.

**International economic risks:** The global economic environment could pose a risk to the

projects included in CPEC. For example, a downturn in the global economy could affect the demand for the goods and services produced by the special economic zones included in CPEC.

**Geopolitical tensions:** Tensions between China and other countries, particularly the United States, could also pose a threat to CPEC. If relations between China and the US were to deteriorate significantly, it could affect the security and stability of CPEC projects.

**Technological risks:** There is a risk that the projects included in CPEC may become obsolete or uneconomic due to technological change. For example, the shift to renewable energy sources could make some of the coal-fired power plants included in CPEC less viable.

**Natural disasters:** The region where CPEC projects are being implemented is prone to natural disasters, such as earthquakes and floods, which could disrupt the implementation of the projects. For example, a major earthquake or flood could damage infrastructure and disrupt transportation links, which could have an impact on the delivery of materials or workers to the project sites.

**Political instability:** The political situation in Pakistan could also pose a risk to CPEC. If the country were to experience significant political instability or changes in government, it could affect the direction and priorities of the project. For example, a new government that had different priorities or a different approach to China could disrupt the implementation of CPEC projects.

**Competition from other projects:**

Other infrastructure and development projects in the region could pose a threat to CPEC by competing for resources or attention. For example, other countries or international organizations may offer financing or support for infrastructure projects in Pakistan, which could divert investment away from CPEC.

**Social and economic tensions:** The projects included in CPEC could also lead to social and economic tensions, such as local resentment over the displacement or disruption caused by the projects, or a perception that the local population is not benefiting from the development. This could lead to opposition or protests.

In a nutshell, CPEC faces a range of internal and external threats that could potentially disrupt or undermine the success of the project. These threats come from a variety of sources, including corruption, security risks, bureaucratic delays, and geopolitical tensions. To address these threats, it will be important for Pakistan and China to work together to implement effective strategies to mitigate the risks and ensure the long-term success of the project. This





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will require strong leadership, transparent communication, and a commitment to addressing the concerns of all stakeholders.

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