

THE NEW SILK ROUTE – OPPORTUNITIES FOR PAKISTAN

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ABSTRACT

After the disintegration of the Soviet Union, the Central Asian and Caucasian countries tried, for the first time in modern history, to establish themselves formally as independent nation states. Countries like Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Turkmenistan see the foundations of their economies in their abundant energy resources². The effort to gain access to some of the most precious global resources could cause a complex series of confrontations and conflicts at regional and international levels. Since the collapse of the bipolar world system discussions on the new world order and problems of regional instability have not been ceased yet. They have recently achieved, perhaps, their apogee, judging on the fierce disputes ongoing in the mass media around the Russian-proposed Eurasian way of development, from the one side, and the US “New Silk Road Strategy”, from the other side. Each suggested model of development has its own advantages and vulnerable places. It is quite obvious after all that their success is closely linked with the settlement of the Afghan issue in one or another format. And that is natural in

² Anonymous, “Energy Industry to Transform in Next Decade,” *Oil and Gas Journal* 97 (25 January 1999): 85.

conditions of globalization, integrity and indivisibility of the international security.

Through this research article, by looking through Liberalism paradigm where enhanced integration and economic interdependence is the order of the day, an attempt will be made to carryout in-depth analysis as to why the development of new silk route is required for the Central Asian States and as to how each player in the international and trans-national arena might try for primacy in its influence and control of the region's oil and gas resources.

This is an academic discourse and therefore, the views expressed are author's own views and do not represent and government or department's view.

Key Words; Globalization, Economic Integrations, Interdependence, Great Opportunities for Pakistan.