

Panel 22:

Civil-Military Relations and the Political Economy of Military Intervention

A number of developing countries have remained unsuccessful in their efforts to consolidate democracy. South Asian states like Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, and Bangladesh have experienced prolonged periods of undemocratic rule. Lopsided civil-military relations have meant that their respective militaries have encroached upon the political sphere, thus bringing civilian supremacy over the armed forces into question. India on the other hand provides a good comparative case where the military remains firmly under civilian control.

This panel will examine the causes and consequences of military interventions in democratic systems. The political economy of military regimes, crisis in civil military relations and the role of military in nascent democracies will be examined by the presenters. While the panel will focus on South Asia for the most part, we remain open to including papers on countries with anomalous civil-military relations elsewhere as well.

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