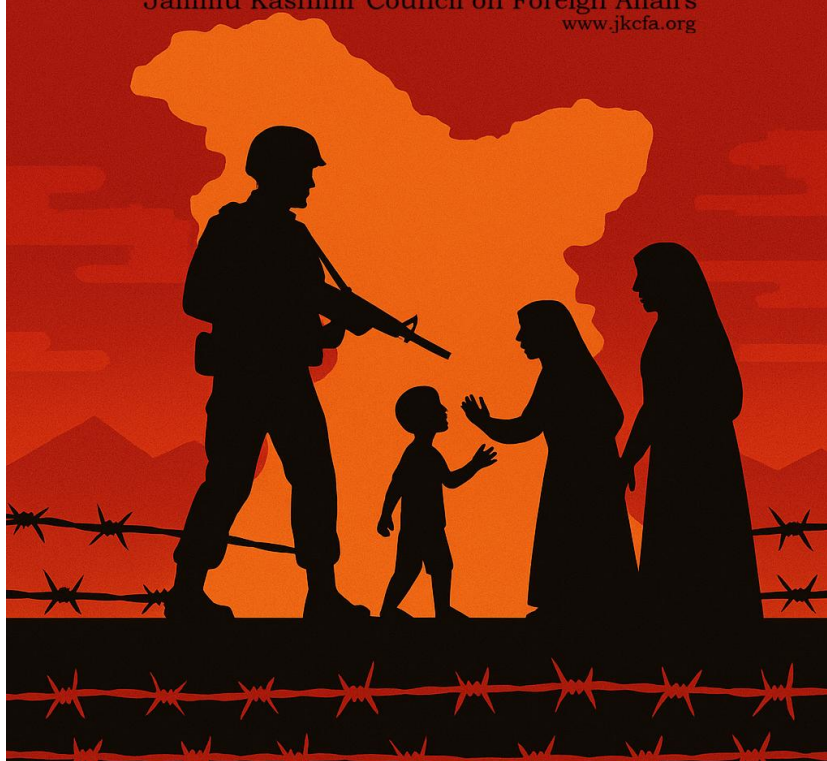


# PROTECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND PREVENTING CONFLICT IN JAMMU & KASHMIR

## A CALL FOR MULTILATERAL ACTION

Jammu Kashmir Council on Foreign Affairs  
[www.jkcfa.org](http://www.jkcfa.org)



## Protecting Human Rights and Preventing Conflict in Jammu & Kashmir: A Call for Multilateral Action



## Jammu Kashmir Council on Foreign Affairs (JKCFA) - Briefing Paper 02, June 2025

### JKCFA - G7 Policy Brief

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## Executive Summary

The disputed region of Jammu & Kashmir is facing a rapidly escalating humanitarian and geopolitical crisis, marked by military escalation, forced deportations, the collapse of treaty-based mechanisms, and gross violations of international law. The Jammu & Kashmir Council on Foreign Affairs (JKCFA) urges the G7 to respond with urgency, unity, and resolve. India's recent invocation of Section 9 of its Citizenship Act to expel long-term Kashmiri residents, along with the suspension of critical bilateral agreements such as the Indus Waters Treaty and the Simla Agreement, threatens not only regional peace but also undermines the foundational principles of the rules-based international order.

The G7, as a champion of democratic values and multilateral cooperation, must respond decisively to uphold human rights, restore legal norms, and promote inclusive dialogue. Failure to act risks further deterioration, regional destabilization, and erosion of the global human rights architecture.

## Key Issues

### 1. Escalation of Armed Conflict

- May 2025 Military Strikes: Indian air and artillery attacks on Azad Jammu & Kashmir (AJK) resulted in over 200 civilian casualties, prompting retaliatory strikes by Pakistan and igniting fears of full-scale war.
- Treaty Breakdowns: India suspended the Indus Waters Treaty while Pakistan paused its participation in the Simla Agreement (1972), dismantling crucial frameworks for conflict management and dispute resolution.

### 2. Deportations and Citizenship Revocations

- India has deployed Section 9 of the Citizenship Act (1955) to classify long-standing residents of Jammu & Kashmir with familial or historical ties to AJK as "foreigners", resulting in forced deportations in violation of:
  - State Subjects Act (1927)
  - Supreme Court precedent (*Muhammad Hussain Shah v. Union of India*, 1980)
  - UN Security Council Resolutions 47 and 80
- Prominent diaspora figures, including Dr. Nitasha Kaul, have had OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) status revoked, illustrating targeted repression of dissenting voices and the shrinking of civic space.

### 3. Humanitarian Crisis and Social Fragmentation

- Family Separation: Mothers forcibly separated from their children at the Wagah–Attari border; elderly couples torn apart by night-time deportation orders.
- Displacement Without Due Process: Three generations of families have been rendered stateless without legal remedy or state support.
- Judicial Non-Compliance: Despite interim court stays, executive authorities have ignored legal orders, further undermining the rule of law.

### 4. Collapse of Civic and Diplomatic Infrastructure

- Civic institutions, including cross-border religious, trade, and cultural exchanges, have been weaponized or shuttered, eliminating crucial channels for dialogue and reconciliation.

## Policy Recommendations

### I. Urgent Diplomatic Action

1. UNSC Presidential Statement: G7 should call for a UN Security Council Presidential Statement denouncing the deportations and treaty violations and reaffirming the applicability of UNSC Resolutions 47 and 80.
2. Demand Ceasefire and End to Deportations: Urge both India and Pakistan to de-escalate tensions and cease all forced deportations, leveraging G7 diplomatic weight.

### II. Accountability and Monitoring

3. Support a UN Fact-Finding Mission: Mandate an independent investigation into forced removals, humanitarian law violations, and executive overreach in Jammu & Kashmir.
4. Establish a Multilateral Observatory: Create an independent, rights-based monitoring body in collaboration with JKCFA and civil society actors to track developments and report regularly to G7 governments.

### III. Legal and Humanitarian Protections

5. Engage UN agencies and the ICRC to:
  - Provide legal assistance to detainees and deportees.
  - Reunite families separated by deportation and border restrictions.
  - Deliver emergency humanitarian relief to affected populations, including shelter, medical aid, and psychosocial support.
6. Humanitarian Access Pathways:
  - Introduce emergency protective visas and humanitarian corridors for vulnerable groups including children, women, elders, and human rights defenders.

### IV. Reviving Diplomatic Dialogue

7. Facilitate Track I and Track II Dialogues, ensuring:
  - Inclusive representation of Kashmiri stakeholders from both Indian- and Pakistan-administered regions, as well as the diaspora.
  - Integration of international frameworks for minority rights, gender equity, and peacebuilding in dialogue processes.

### Why This Matters for the G7

- Human Rights and Rule of Law: G7 silence in the face of arbitrary detentions, family separations, and citizenship revocations would severely damage its credibility as a guardian of global human rights.
- Global Security Risk: Kashmir is one of the world's most volatile nuclear flashpoints. Collapse of treaty mechanisms raises significant risk of interstate conflict with regional and global consequences.
- Protection of the Rules-Based International Order: Bilateral and multilateral agreements like the Indus Waters Treaty are test cases for the resilience of international legal regimes.

- Diaspora and Domestic Relevance: G7 member states—particularly Canada, the UK, and the United States—host large and active Kashmiri diaspora communities now directly affected by deportations, visa cancellations, and family separations.

**About JKCFA:** The Jammu & Kashmir Council on Foreign Affairs (JKCFA) is the first independent foreign affairs bureau representing the collective aspirations of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and their global diaspora. Headquartered in the United Kingdom, JKCFA provides rights-based advocacy, policy analysis, and diplomatic engagement on issues affecting Kashmiris under Indian and Pakistani administrations. Guided by a diverse board of trustees and grounded in international law and human rights principles, JKCFA works to amplify indigenous and inclusive narrative across the divided and disputed regions of Jammu & Kashmir in multilateral forums, facilitate dialogue, and support sustainable, peace-oriented solutions that reflect the sovereign will of all Kashmiris.

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