

Dear Reader,

it gives me great pleasure to address myself to you as part of this DAWN special supplement on Germany. I hope this supplement will give you a comprehensive picture of my home country Germany, the many facets of Pakistani-German bilateral relations and the numerous interactions between our peoples.

The history of Pakistani-German relations is one of long-lasting friendship. Germany always was and will be a reliable partner at Pakistan's side, and we regard our cooperation with Pakistan as very important.

During the last years Pakistan experienced difficult challenges. Germany fully supports Pakistan's decisive action against terrorist and extremist activities and is well aware of the sacrifices which Pakistan has had to make.

Germany has fulfilled her commitments at the Tokyo Conference in April 2009. Projects worth some 110 million euro are currently being implemented in Pakistan. Germany actively participates in the group of "Friends of Democratic Pakistan" through which we engage in an intensive dialogue with the government of Pakistan on the various needs Pakistan has in these times of crises and means to address them.

Being in Pakistan, I am a witness to the grave energy crisis the country is facing. Germany not only contributed in various ways to the Energy Sector Task Force established in the framework of the "Friends of Democratic Pakistan", but is also actively engaged in exploring possible solutions to overcome this crisis with our Pakistani partners. As an initiative of the German Embassy Islamabad and in cooperation with local partners, a German business delegation visited Islamabad in April 2010. Fourteen delegates representing nine German companies from the solar, wind, hydro and geothermal sectors participated. Some of these visiting companies have already started new businesses in Pakistan, others are about to start.

Dear Reader,

the German Embassy Islamabad is ready to be of assistance if you want to know more about Germany or Pakistani-German relations. If you have not yet done so, I recommend a look at our newly set-up website ([www.islamabad.diplo.de](http://www.islamabad.diplo.de)) as a point of entry.

Dr. Michael Koch

German Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan