

III. Executive Summary Sample

Executive Summary [total length not to exceed 350 words]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study presents a new framework to expedit the connections between Pakistan's religious schools (*madaris*) and militancy in Pakistan and beyond.

MAIN ARGUMENT

Contrary to popular belief, *madrasah* students are not a

Article Topic [preferably no longer than 1–2 lines]

Main Argument [preferably no longer than 6–10 lines]

lity. Madaris—along with mosques and public groups, religious ideologues, and potential recruits can interact. Religious leaders of some madaris issue edicts (*fatwas*) that justify the use of violence, and a small number of madaris are used for militant training. Limited evidence suggests that madrasah students more strongly support jihad than those of public or private schools—but public school students, who comprise 70% of Pakistan's enrolled students, also have high levels of support for violence.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- With respect to intelligence collection and analysis, asking whether or not madaris produce militants is the wrong question. Querying the educational and other characteristics of key *tanzeem* (militant group) operatives, while keeping in mind the impacts of group efforts to select for desired skills and capabilities, will inform counterterrorism efforts more effectively.

- A number of implications are posed by the threat posed by Pakistan-based

- The U.S. can act unilaterally against the cost to other objectives (e.g., M in this regard only with varying and diminished respect for rule

Policy Implications [preferably in the form of bulleted “if ... then ...” statements that spell out the benefits or problems associated with specific policy options rather than stating that the government “should” take a certain action]

- Pakistan's entire education system requires comprehensive reform; such reform may be beyond Pakistan's capability and there may be only limited scope for the United States to help. Increased participation by multinational organizations and demand for accountability by all partners are required to complete this daunting task. The costs of failure are too high to countenance.
- Because efforts to restrict the supply of terrorism have rapidly diminishing margins of return, interventions to reduce demand for terrorism are needed.
- Madaris merit continual observation as they may contribute both to the demand for terrorism and to the limited supply of militants. For the same reasons, Pakistan's public school sector deserves much more attention than it currently enjoys.