

Afghanistan in Global Perspective

Lecture By
Ambrish Dhaka,
School of International Studies,
JNU, ND-067

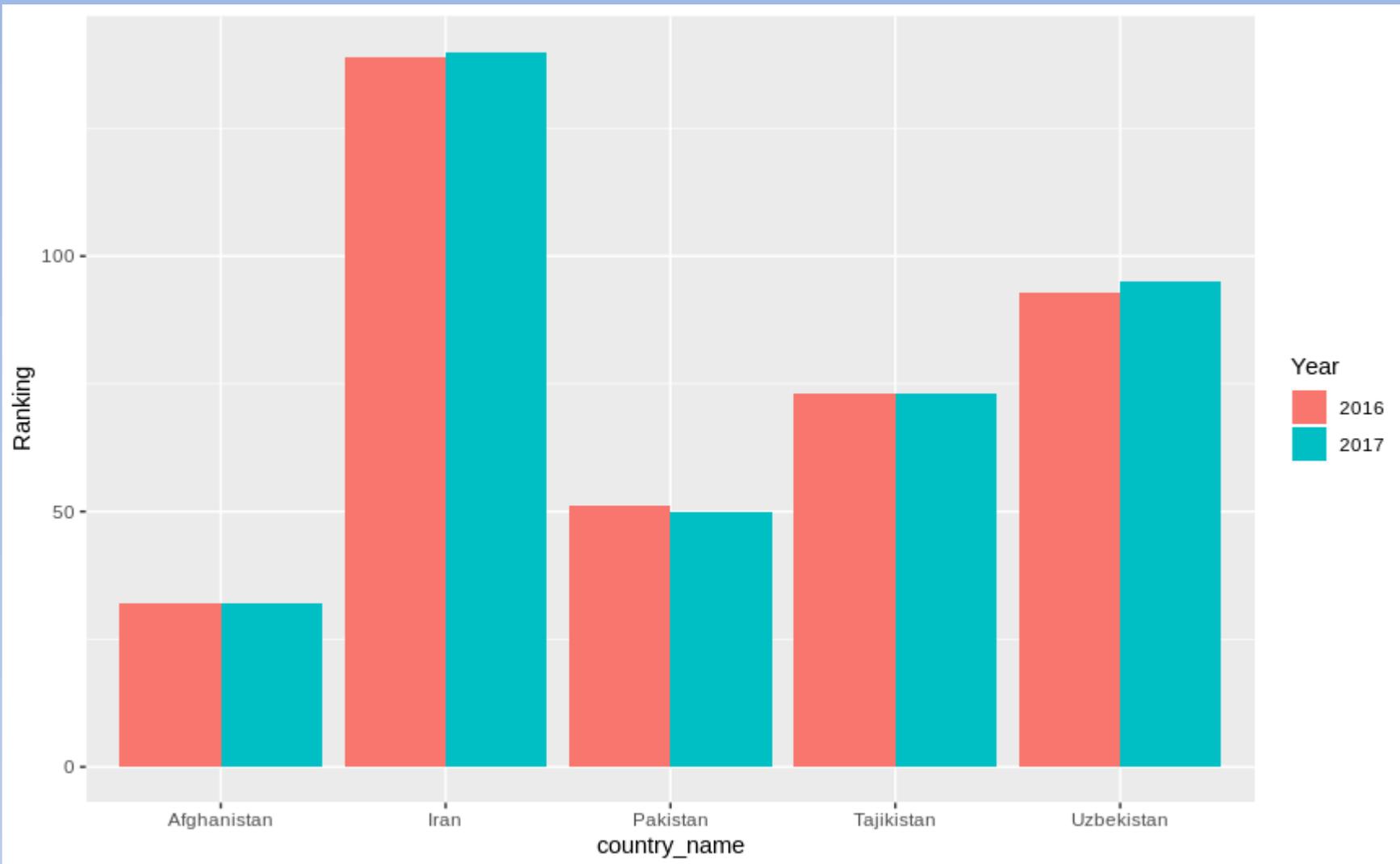
Tuesday, March 12, 2019
02.00 pm to 03.30 pm
Lecture Hall at UGC-HRDC, JNU

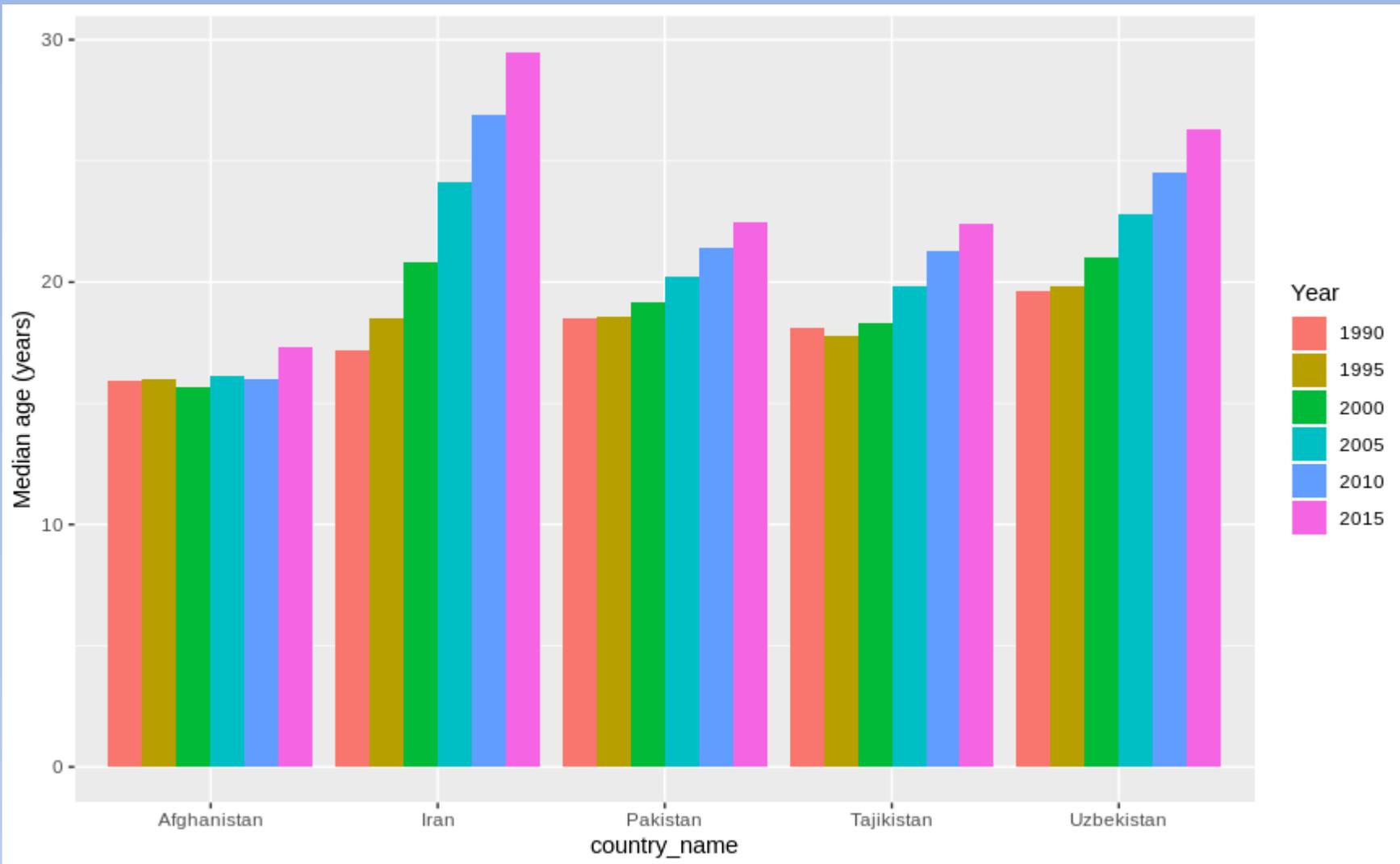
Disclaimer: All maps used in the presentation are purely
indicative, they do not represent the true political boundaries.

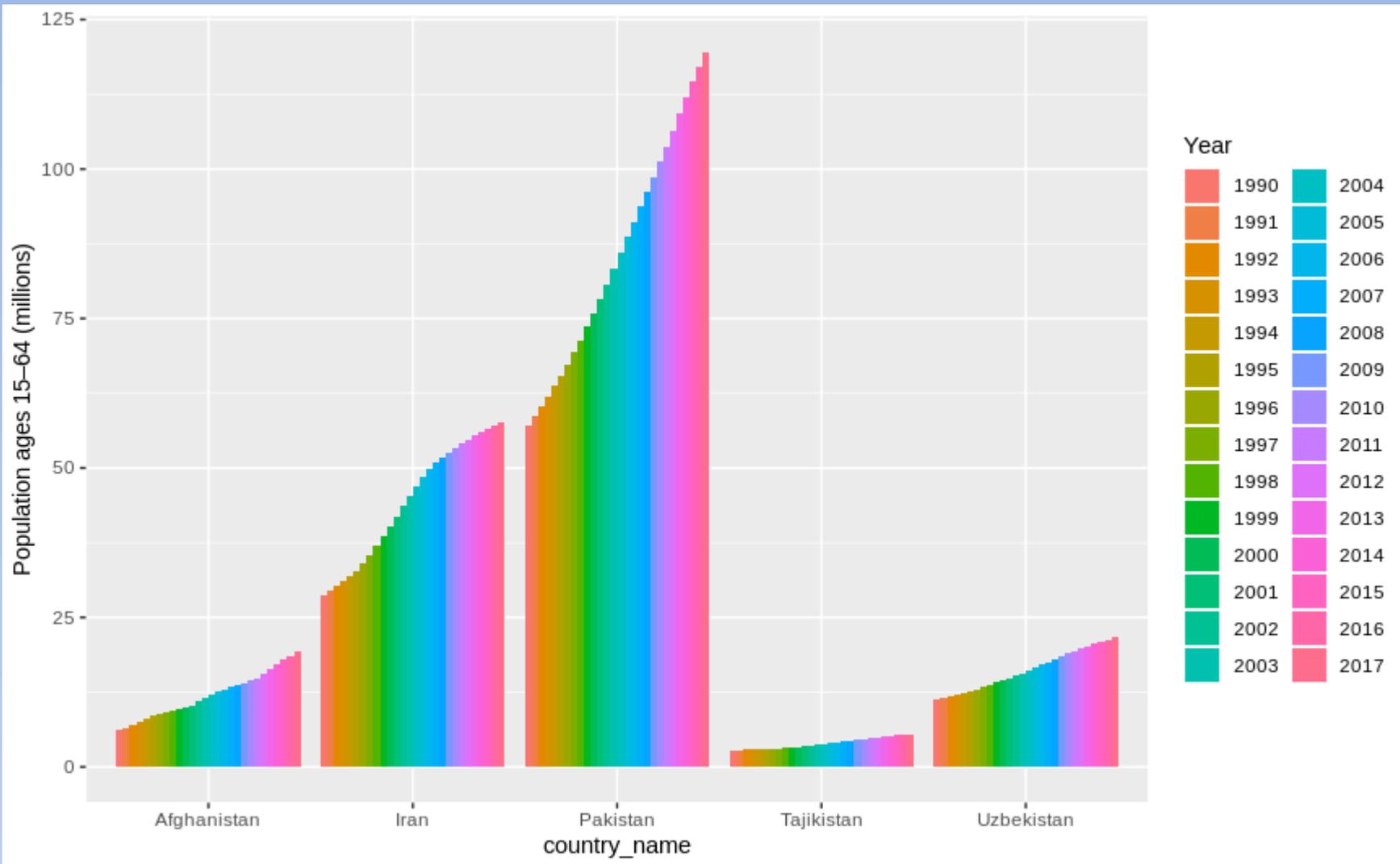
AFGHANISTAN

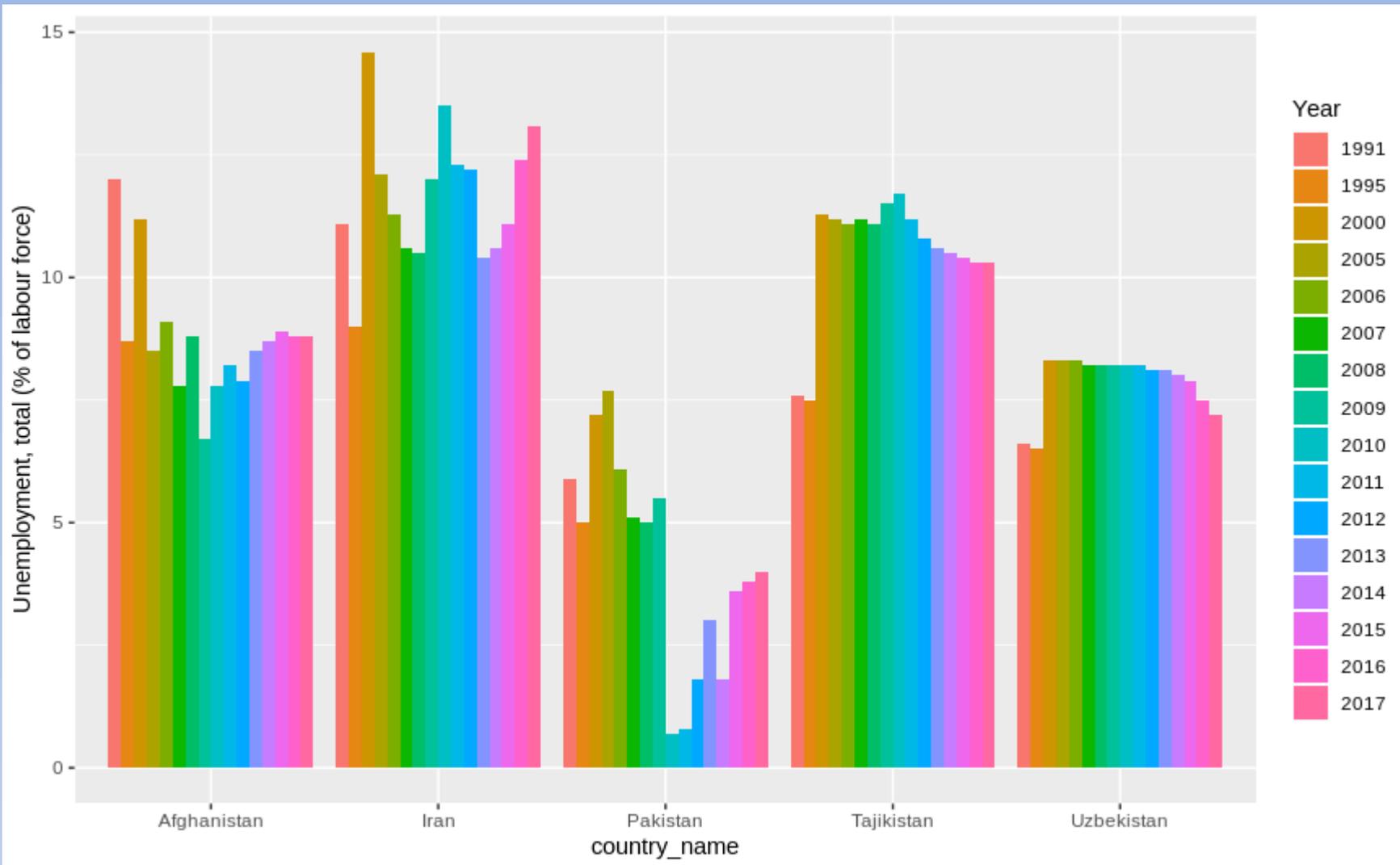


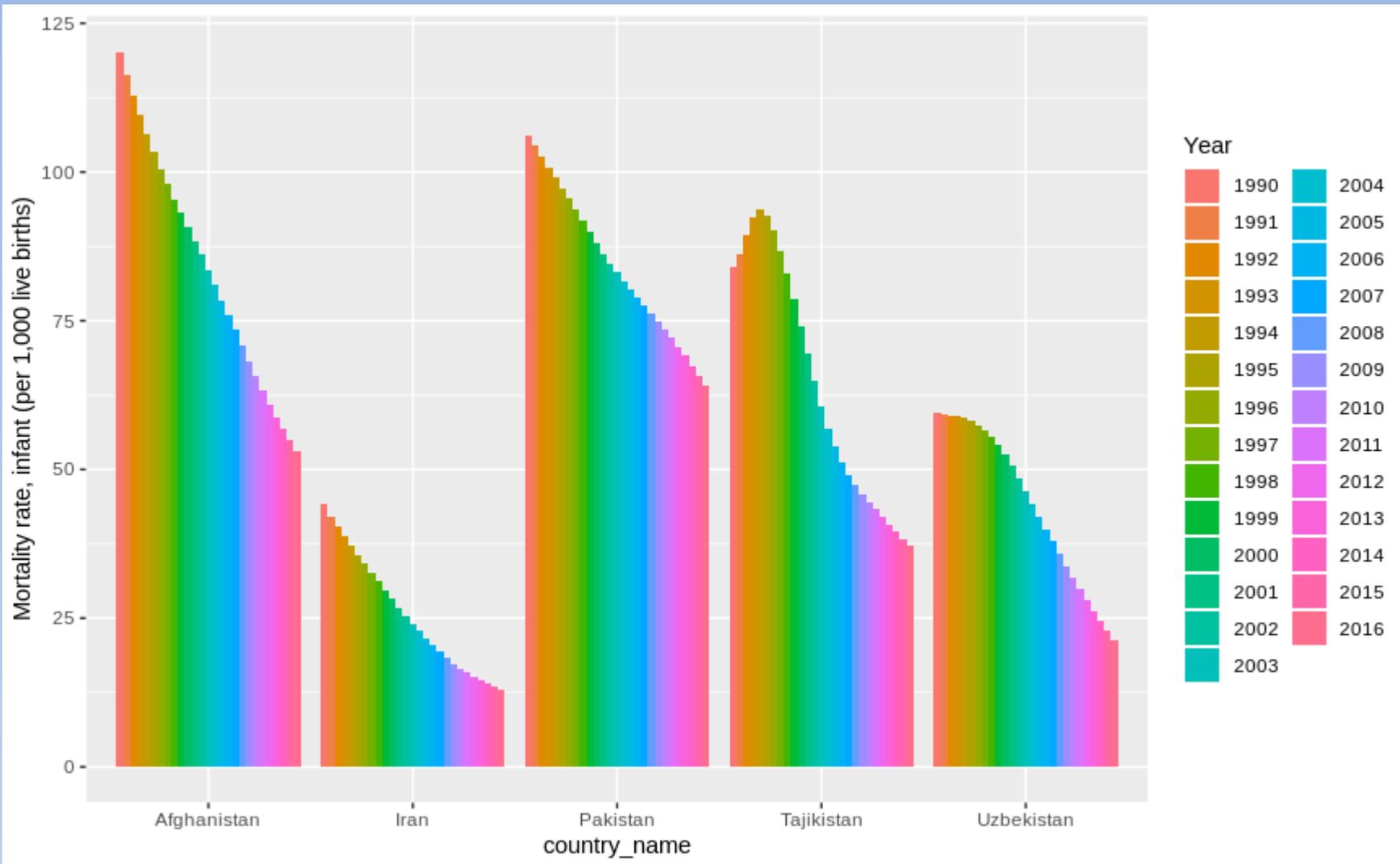
Disclaimer: All maps used in the presentation are purely indicative, they do not represent the true political boundaries.

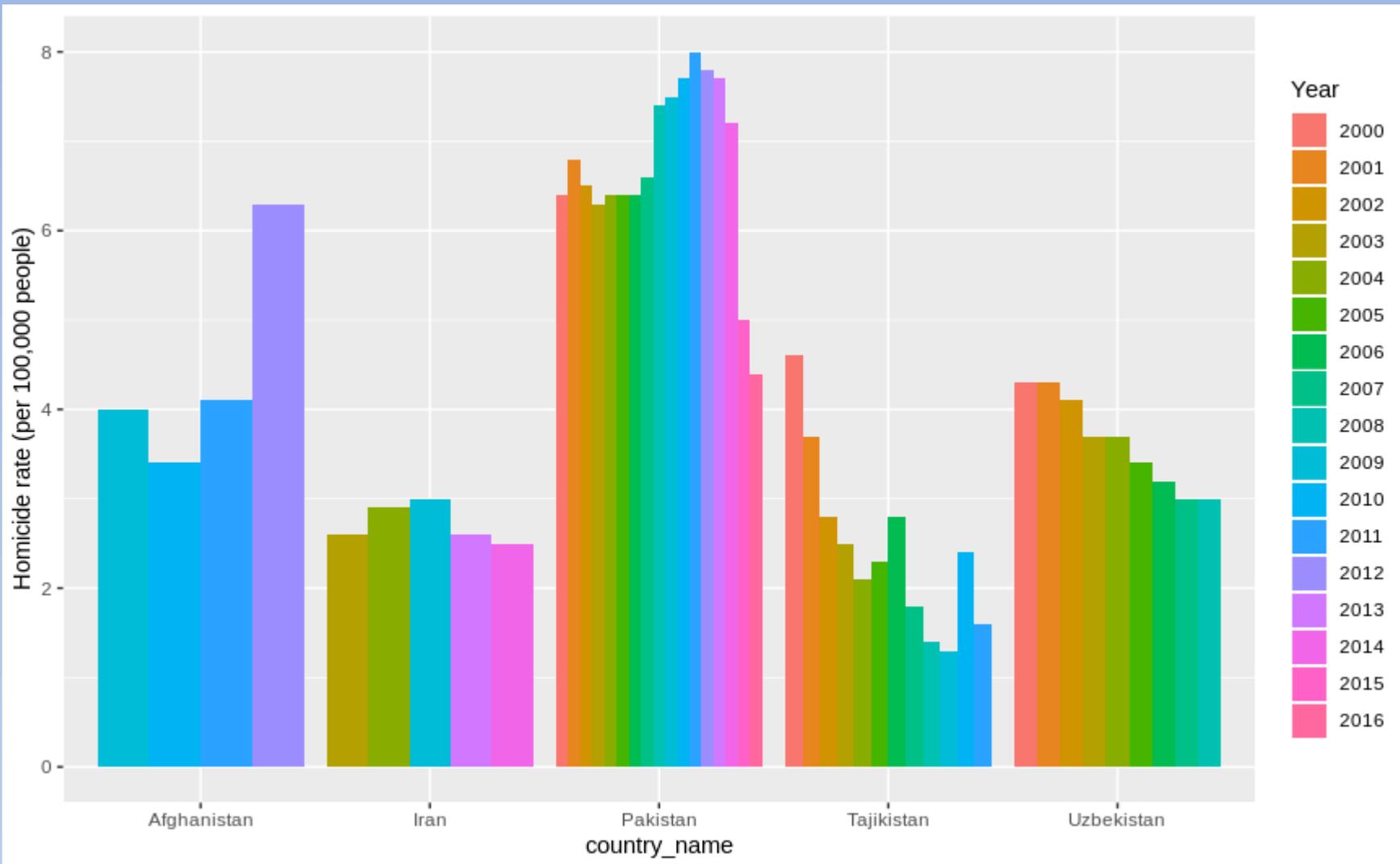


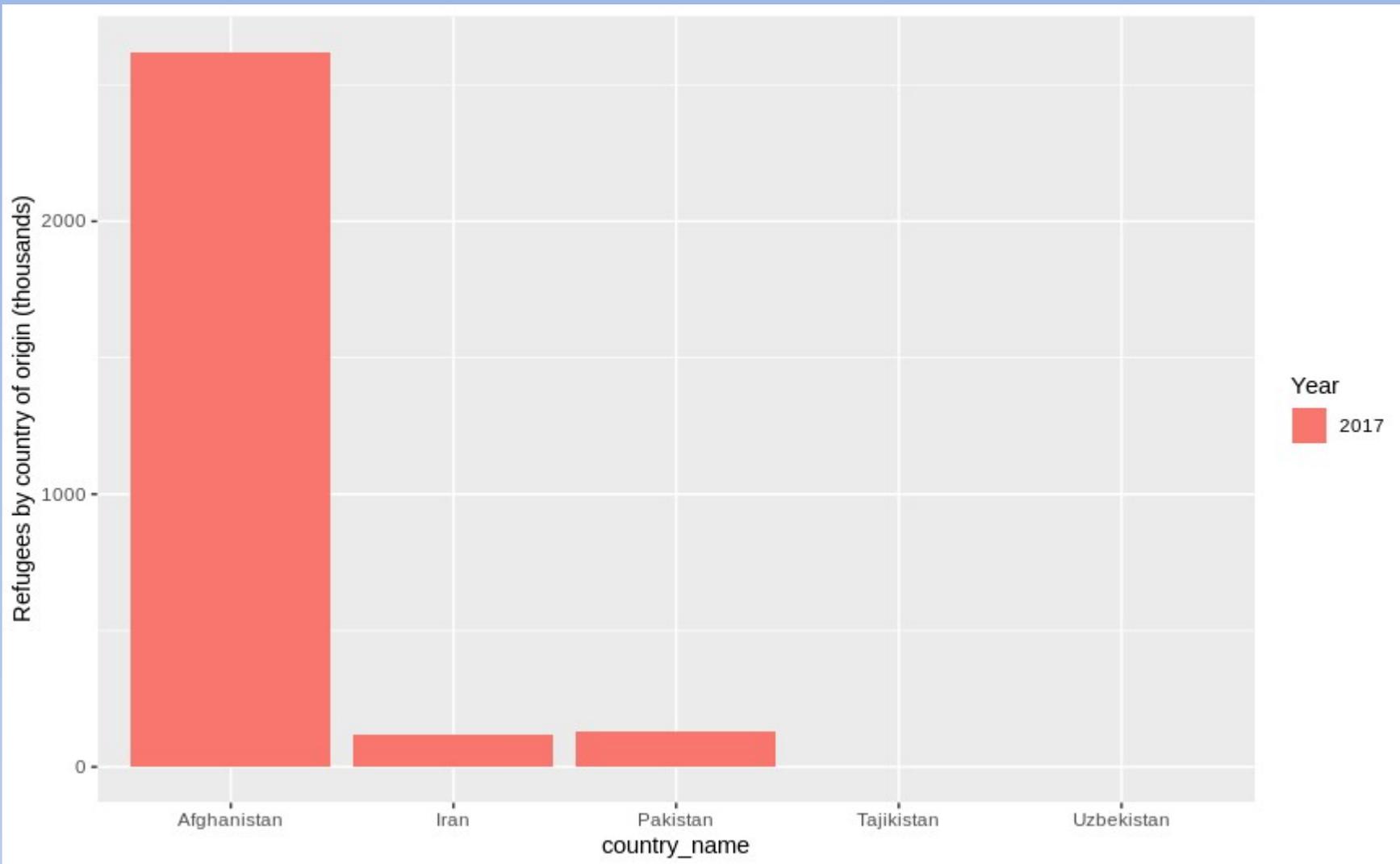




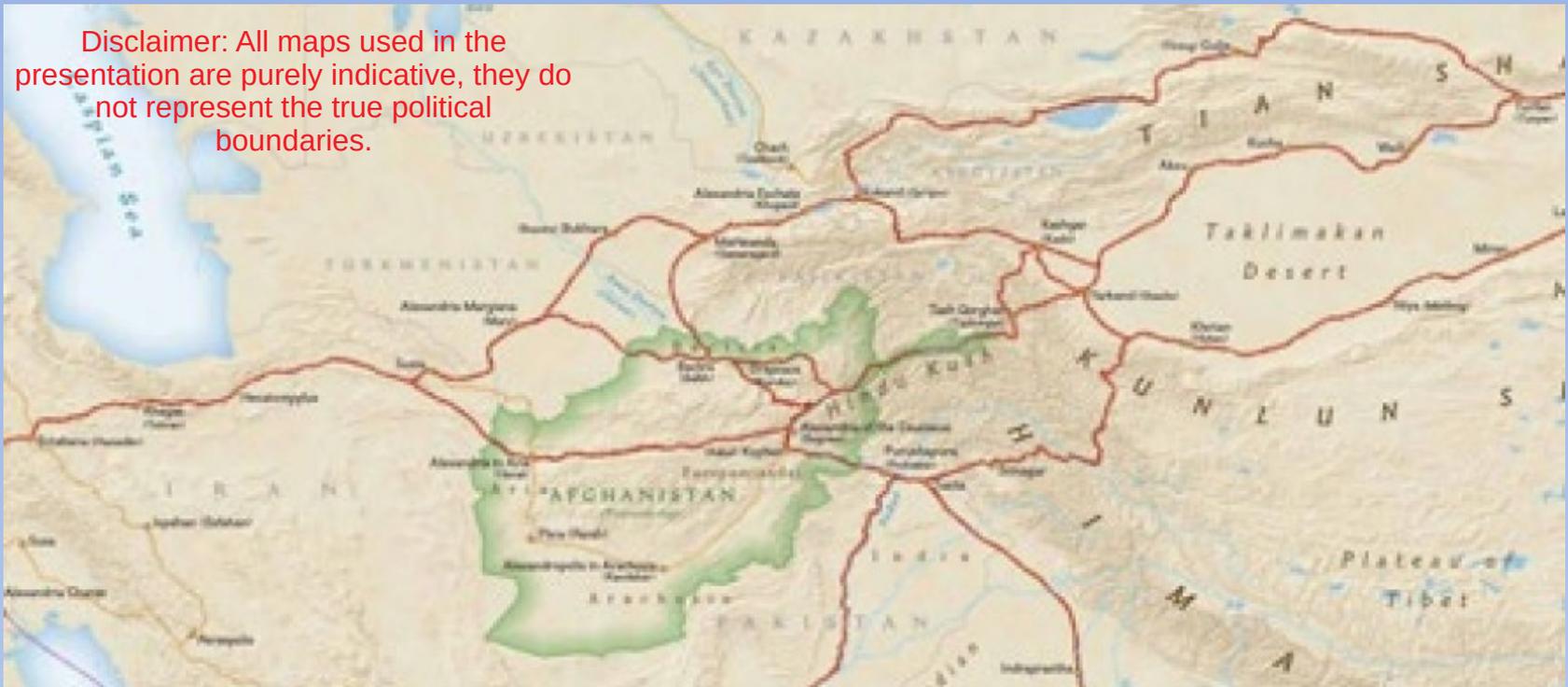








Disclaimer: All maps used in the presentation are purely indicative, they do not represent the true political boundaries.



This serves as the premise for “the New Silk Road Vision” which was introduced by the former US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011.

Afghanistan is a viable transit country for the Central Asia South Asia-1000 (CASA-1000) transmission line.

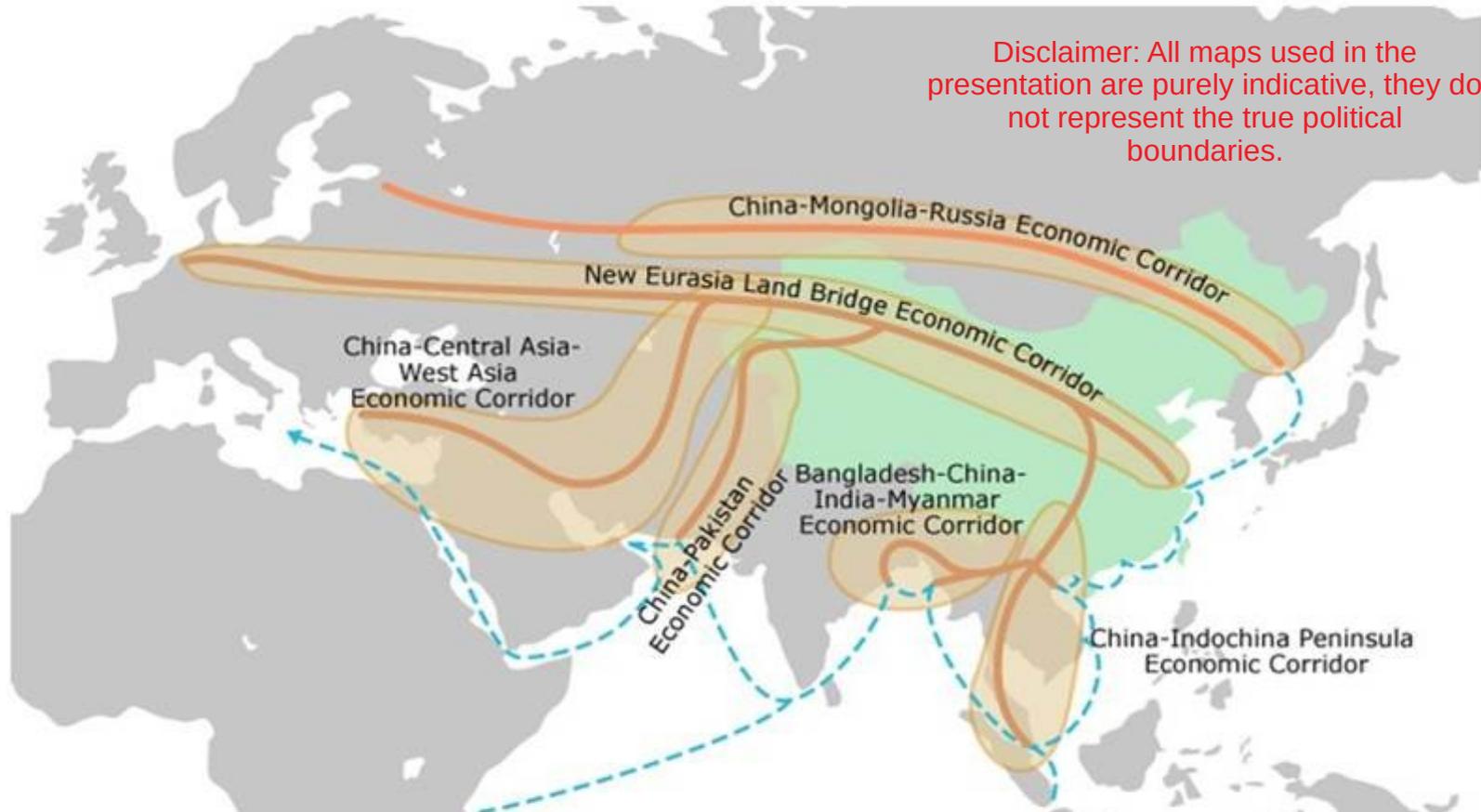
The Turkmenistan-Afghanistan-Pakistan-India (TAPI) gas pipeline where Afghanistan once again plays a central role in connecting energy-rich Central Asia to energy-deficient South Asia.

Lapis Lazulli Corridor runs from Aqina in northern Faryab province and Turqundi in western Herat province of Afghanistan to Turkmenbashi of Turkmenistan which arrives in Baku, capital city of Azerbaijan, after passing the Caspian Sea. It connects Baku to Tbilisi, Georgia’s capital, and also the ports of Polti and Batumi of Georgia. The Corridor then connects cities of Kors and Istanbul of Turkey and finally ends in Europe.

<https://wadsam.com/afghan-business-news/afghanistan-still-at-the-heart-of-the-silk-road-3737/>

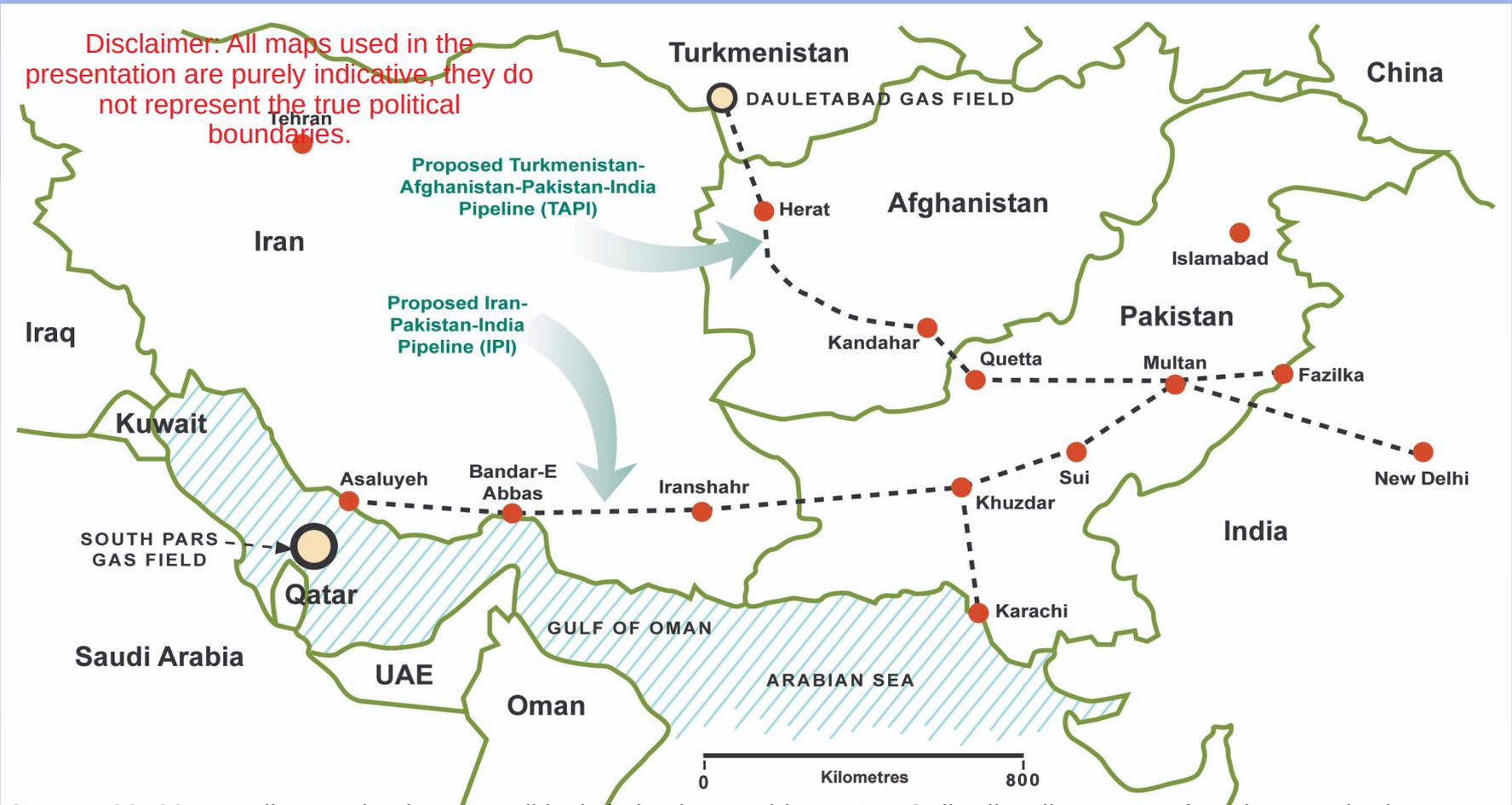
The Belt and Road Initiative: Six Economic Corridors Spanning Asia, Europe and Africa

Disclaimer: All maps used in the presentation are purely indicative, they do not represent the true political boundaries.



BRI is comprised of the '21st Century Maritime Silk Road' and the 'Silk Road Economic Belt' together they will connect more than 65 countries making up over 62% of the world's population, around 35% of the world's trade and over 31% of the world's GDP. It will take the form of a series of highways, railways and ports as well as facilities for energy, telecommunications, healthcare and education.

Source: <https://www.lehmanbrown.com/insights-newsletter/belt-road-initiative/>



On May 20, 2017, India surprised many political circles by reaching out to Gulbadin Hikmatyar, a ferocious warlord who had driven out most of his rivals from Kabul to become Prime Minister in 1993, indeed with the full support of Pakistan. Former Taliban leader Mulla Abdussalam Zaeef had undertaken several unofficial visits to India, once to attend a discussion at a media group's event in which finance minister P. Chidambaram was his co-panelist.

Back in 2012, Taliban issued an statement to express appreciation of India for not assuming any security role in Afghanistan on behalf of the United States, calling India as 'a significant country in the region'.

Source: <http://studies.aljazeera.net/en/reports/2018/04/tapi-project-afghan-factor-india-pakistan-diplomacy-180419110526773.html>

"India's plan to spend \$500 million on a new port complex on Iran's Indian Ocean coast caps a decade-long quest to find a way to get sorely needed supplies of energy." Source: <https://foreignpolicy.com/2016/05/31/indias-500-million-bet-on-iran/>

"Work on the TAPI Pipeline Afghan leg of the 1,814 km, \$8bn TAPI natural gas pipeline that will eventually link energy-rich Turkmenistan to Pakistan and India began last week after an opening ceremony in the province of Herat attended by senior politicians including the presidents of Turkmenistan Gurbanguly Berdymukhammedov and his Afghan counterpart Ashraf Ghani Ahmadzai.

The new pipeline will have an annual capacity 33 bn m³ and will pump gas from Turkmenistan's giant Galkynysh field.

It is anticipated that India and Pakistan will each buy around 14bn m³ of the gas and Afghanistan the rest. Kabul is expected to earn up to \$500m in annual transit duties from the project, whose construction could also create as many as 25,000 jobs."

Source: <https://www.eurasianbusinessbriefing.com/new-chapter-work-starts-afghan-leg-tapi-pipeline/>

Peace in Afghanistan: Talks with Taliban

"Vina pa vina na pakezhi", Blood Can't wash Blood.

“The arrival of Mullah Baradar signifies the entire collegium of Taliban is on board for chalking out with the US a pact for leaving Afghanistan as a stable country.”

“The problem of power sharing is fundamental source of its opposition to talks with the Afghan government. Taliban does not see itself as partner in any arrangement with the current Afghan government.”

“Nearly 700 women delegates had gathered in the women Jirga held in February 2019 for the first time in the history of Afghanistan. These women had expressed all sorts of apprehension while dealing with Taliban and conveyed their anguish over any concessions granted to Taliban over women rights. ”

“The Moscow format of peace talks spoke of several institutional measures that appeared bone of contention between Afghan government and the Taliban. They agreed to retain the “fundamental and defense institutions”, but this was not further elaborated, whether it referred to ANA specifically.”

Source: Talking to the Theo-praetorians..... Dhaka, A (2019)

Corruption, Narco-Terror, Fundamentalism and the Continuum

The US war against terror in Afghanistan has been sounded out as a failure. The Taliban have been demanding complete withdrawal. The quest for trusted governance ends up in recruiting more of keptocrats. The drugs and terror connections are difficult to snap in present power struggle scenario. The rise of religious extremism is also on cards with Taliban choosing only way of assuring their entry to corridors of power. And, Pakistan would continue to support religious and extremist groups so long it stands governed by the interest of its Army.

Afghanistan is looking for peace and stability, but the quest does not confine into the territoriality of peace within that country. The South Asian geopolitical balance is more to do with peace. Pakistan has always relied on the notion of strategic depth in response to confront India's rise.

Suggested Readings:

Emadi, H. *Dynamics of Political Development in Afghanistan: The British, Russian, and American Invasions*. Springer, 2010.

Ewans, Martin. *Conflict in Afghanistan: Studies in Asymmetric Warfare*. Routledge, 2004.

Gall, Carlotta. *The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan 2001 - 2014*. Penguin UK, 2014.

Goodson, Larry P. *Afghanistan's Endless War: State Failure, Regional Politics, and the Rise of the Taliban*. University of Washington Press, 2011.

Kakar, Allauddin. *The US-Afghanistan Relations during Obama Era: Implications for Pakistan*. GRIN Verlag, 2014.

Krause, Joachim, and Charles King Mallory IV. *Afghanistan, Pakistan and Strategic Change: Adjusting Western Regional Policy*. Routledge, 2014.

Lamb, Christina. *Farewell Kabul: From Afghanistan To A More Dangerous World*. HarperCollins UK, 2015.

Laruelle, Marlene. *The Central Asia–Afghanistan Relationship: From Soviet Intervention to the Silk Road Initiatives*. Lexington Books, 2017.

Rotberg, Robert I. *Building a New Afghanistan*. Brookings Institution Press, 2007.

Rubin, Barnett R. *Afghanistan from the Cold War through the War on Terror*. Oxford University Press, 2013.

Saikal, Amin, and Kirill Nourzhanov. *Afghanistan and Its Neighbors after the NATO Withdrawal*. Lexington Books, 2016.

You are welcome to visit site: ambijat.wikidot.com

wiki .wikidot.com Share on [T](#) [f](#) [D](#) [G+](#) [V](#) Edit History Tags Source Explore »

[Create account](#) or [Sign in](#)

Geopolitics of Afghanistan

Student's Corner

Search this site

JNU MA Fudan2012 Second Semester First Semester GIS Courses Message Board Contact

Task Pages

[Welcome page](#)
[Student's Page](#)
[Teacher's Page](#)
[Forum](#)
[Contact](#)

FAQs

[How to join this site?](#)
[Site members](#)
[Wikidot](#)

Admin Pages

[Recent posts](#)
[What is a Wiki Site?](#)
[How to edit pages?](#)
[Recent changes](#)
[List all pages](#)
[Page Tags](#)
[Site Manager](#)

Page tags

afghanistan geopolitics

Add a new page

[edit this panel](#)

The Semester Study and Research Program

S, JAWAHARLAL NEHRU UNIVERSITY Welcome ! to Monsoon Semester 2018 [Kindly, see the courses SA-653 for MPhil. | IS-

South Asia and Central Asia

School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

Dear Students, Welcome !

This site aims at bringing the interactive learning to your doorsteps. There is a great need to create an interactive set up where each student can simulate learning environment by remaining in touch with the teacher and resources according to his needs. And, it is my pursuit to bring in this as a novel step towards capability enhancement and learning skills.

AFGHANISTAN

PROVINCES OF AFGHANISTAN

Thanks !