

**MoU signing ceremony between CAPES and Indonesian Students Association
Islamabad (PPMI)
23 January, 2026
Indonesian Corner, National Library Pakistan**

Executive summary

Consortium for Asia-Pacific and Eurasian Studies (CAPES) and the Indonesian Students Association Islamabad (PPMI) signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 23 January 2026 at the Indonesian Corner, National Library of Pakistan, to formalize and strengthen educational, cultural, and people-to-people cooperation between Pakistan and Indonesia. This MoU signing ceremony underscores the growing importance of youth driven public diplomacy in bilateral relations. The MoU aims to facilitate academic engagement, cultural exchange, and collaborative activities involving Indonesian students studying in Pakistan, while creating institutional linkages between CAPES and PPMI.



Session highlights

Indonesian Students Association Islamabad (PPMI) is a representative body of more than 300 Indonesian students enrolled in Pakistani universities. The representatives from Indonesian Embassy also graced the event with their presence.

Rehmat Hindiarta Kusuma, Minister Counsellor for Information, Social and Cultural at Indonesian Embassy Islamabad attended the event as the chief guest. He acknowledged the central role of CAPES in strengthening People to People contacts between Indonesia and Pakistan. He said public diplomacy with

brotherly countries like Pakistan is central to Indonesian foreign policy and events such as this complement our long-term engagement with the country. He was of the view that building on this engagement, Indonesian embassy shall strive to connect CAPES with the Indonesian think-tanks and centers working on public diplomacy. **Dr. Shoaib**, Senior vice president of CAPES, emphasized that connections developed between the youth last longer than connections established among diplomats. **Mr. Sardar Bakhsh**, Chief Organizer CAPES, highlighted how his organization is playing a pivotal role in facilitating Indonesian students enrolled in Pakistani university, to cement long-term people to people contacts. **Muhsin Al Fatih**, Chairman Indonesian Students Association Islamabad, thanked CAPES for connecting Indonesian students with the larger Pakistani society. This partnership helps Indonesian students to explore various facets of Pakistani culture to build long-lasting relations.