

# Pakistan, the Taliban, and the future of Afghanistan

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Afghanistan's Taliban is poised to take the reins in Kabul with the looming withdrawal of US troops. Although dependent on Pakistan in the past, the Taliban are now more geopolitically savvy. So what influence would Islamabad have in a new Taliban-led Afghanistan? And what can the world expect from a Taliban 2.0 government? South Asia observers Assoc Prof Matthew Nelson and Dr Zahid Ahmed join Ali Moore to discuss Afghanistan's possible futures.

An Asia Institute podcast. Produced and edited by profactual.com. Music by audionautix.com. Transcript [here](#).

*Image (L-R): Associate Professor Matthew Nelson and Dr Zahid Ahmed.*



*Main image: Afghan students' coats hang on a wall in Kabul, 2006. Credit: United Nations/Flickr.*