MONTHLY POLICY UPDATE & HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of October 2026

By

EXPERTS CENTER FOR MARKET AND POLICY RESEARCH

Join our hands to empower the youth for a psychologically, economically, and socially vibrant and progressing society.

DEAR READERS,

Welcome to this month's update. We are pleased to share ECMPR'S latest policy advocacy, international engagements, and market-driven initiatives advancing economic liberty and free-market principles over the past month.

1. FAIR REGULATION, GREEN GROWTH

2nd October 2026

A Policy Dialogue on Sustainable Plastic Regulation in KP

As part of this new ECMPR initiative, we held a preliminary meeting with Mr. Humayun Khan, Advisor to the Chief Minister of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa on Industries & Commerce, to understand the challenges and opportunities surrounding the plastic sector.

ECMPR will engage with government, EPA, industry, workers, environmental experts and other stakeholders to hear diverse perspectives, conduct evidence-based research, and explore practical solutions that balance environmental protection, entrepreneurship, employment and sustainable economic growth.

This is the beginning of a broader dialogue—listening first, researching, and then developing viable policy options.

ECMPR Pakistan | Research • Dialogue • Better Policy





2. FROM LEARNING TO GLOBAL CONTRIBUTION

5th October 2026

ECMPR Pakistan is proud to celebrate another inspiring achievement from its growing team of change makers.

Dr. Amjad Ali, Director Fundraising & Outreach at ECMPR, recently participated in Asia Liberty Forum 2026 and Fundraising 360 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, joining a diverse international community committed to advancing ideas that promote human dignity, entrepreneurship, economic opportunity, and individual liberty.

What made the experience especially meaningful was Dr. Amjad's achievement during Fundraising 360. From a cohort of 26 participants, only eight were selected to present their project pitches on the ALF Main Stage before judges and an international audience—and Dr. Amjad was among them. His selection reflects not only his individual growth, but also the value of continuous learning, mentoring, and exposure to an international community of ideas.

For ECMPR, this is a moment of genuine pride.

We believe that lasting change begins with people. Through continuous education, intellectual exchange, and opportunities to engage with global peers, ECMPR is helping its team expand their perspectives, sharpen their ideas, and develop the confidence to contribute to conversations beyond Pakistan.

This is also how we see our role as a proud partner in a wider global movement for economic freedom, entrepreneurship, open societies, and human flourishing.

Our contribution is not only through research, advocacy, and public engagement. It is also through building people who learn, lead, and contribute.

From Peshawar to Colombo—and from learning to leadership—the ECMPR journey continues.

We learn. We grow. We contribute. We create impact.



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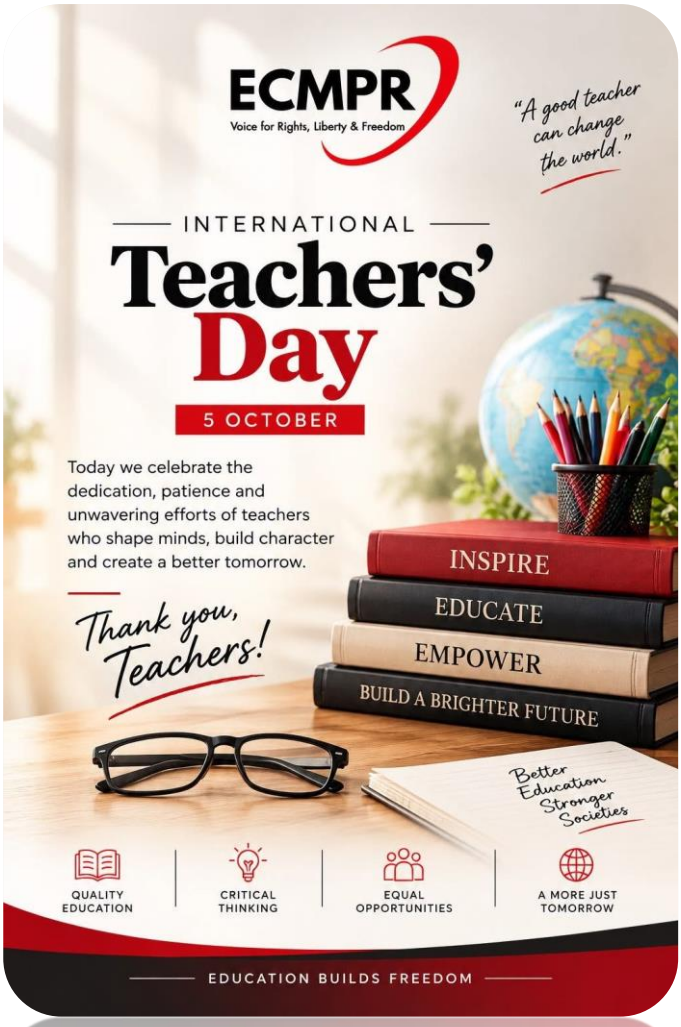
🌱We learn. We grow. We contribute. We create impact.



4. EDUCATION IS THE ULTIMATE TOOL FOR PERSONAL LIBERTY AND HUMAN FLOURISHING.

5th October 2026

This International Teachers' Day, ECMPR honors the educators who inspire critical thinking, foster self-reliance, and unlock individual potential.
Free minds build free societies. When we empower individuals with quality education and equal opportunity, we lay the groundwork for a more just, innovative, and prosperous tomorrow.
Thank you to all the teachers shaping the leaders of tomorrow!



5. ECMPR CONTRIBUTES TO REGIONAL DIALOGUE ON THINK TANKS & POLICY IMPACT

6th October 2026

Experts Centre for Market and Policy Research (ECMPR) Pakistan was proud to contribute to the Asia Liberty Forum 2026 in Colombo, Sri Lanka, where Dr. Wali Rahman, Director, ECMPR Pakistan, served as a guest speaker in a high-level session on:
"Challenges for Think Tanks in Turbulent Political Environments, Especially in South Asia."
The session brought together think-tank leaders from across Asia to discuss how independent policy organizations can maintain credibility, protect organizational independence, manage risks, adapt to political uncertainty, and continue creating meaningful policy impact in challenging environments.
Drawing on ECMPR's experience in Pakistan, Dr. Wali Rahman shared practical perspectives on navigating complex operating environments while remaining committed to evidence-based research, constructive policy engagement, and institutional independence.
💡 The discussion underscored an important message: challenging environments do not eliminate opportunities for impact—they require think tanks to become more adaptive, resilient, strategic, and innovative.
ECMPR is proud to contribute Pakistan's perspective to regional conversations and to work alongside fellow organizations across Asia in strengthening the role of independent, market-oriented policy research and constructive public policy dialogue.
ECMPR remains committed to turning ideas into impact through research, education, dialogue, and policy engagement



6. CELEBRATING A NEW MILESTONE IN KNOWLEDGE & LEADERSHIP

6th October 2026

ECMPR Pakistan proudly congratulates Dr. Sajjad Ahmad, Director ECMPR, on successfully supervising a PhD scholar through the completion of doctoral research.

Beyond an academic achievement, every successful PhD represents an investment in independent thinking, rigorous inquiry, and the next generation of knowledge leaders. Dr. Sajjad's contribution reflects ECMPR's commitment to nurturing minds capable of questioning ideas, generating evidence, and contributing to better institutions and a more prosperous society.

We believe that ideas shape institutions, and empowered individuals shape societies. Supporting quality research and young scholars is therefore an important part of building a future grounded in human dignity, individual liberty, rule of law, and open societies.

Congratulations, Dr. Sajjad Ahmad, on this remarkable academic contribution!



7. Fair Regulation, Green Growth

18th October 2026

Is banning plastic bags (lifafa) and imposing heavy fines the best solution for the environment, or just an extra burden on everyday citizens and small businesses?

At ECMPR, we believe environmental protection must go hand-in-hand with economic freedom and support for local livelihoods. A blanket ban without a proper strategy overlooks key issues:

Lack of Infrastructure: Public disposal bins and effective waste-segregation systems remain scarce.

Financial Burden: Eco-friendly alternatives are currently much more expensive, hurting inflation-hit citizens.

Impact on Small Businesses: Punitive fines and shop sealings harm vendors without offering viable market solutions.

A Market-Friendly Way Forward:

Affordable Alternatives First: Provide low-cost options before penalizing the public.

Build Infrastructure: Invest in proper recycling systems and waste segregation.

Education over Enforcement: Prioritize public awareness and training over heavy fines.

Let's champion practical, pro-market solutions that protect both our environment and our economy!

ECMPR Pakistan | Research • Dialogue • Better Policy



8. STRENGTHENING RULE OF LAW THROUGH YOUTH

18th October 2026

ECMPR Pakistan's CEO attended the Moot Camp organized by the Department of Law, Islamia College Peshawar—an engaging platform where young law students sharpen their advocacy, critical thinking, and understanding of justice.

Empowering youth with knowledge of law and constitutional principles is essential for building a society rooted in rule of law, individual liberty, human dignity, and accountable institutions.

ECMPR Pakistan is proud to engage with young minds and support a generation committed to a freer, more just, and prosperous society.



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10.CULTIVATING IDEAS FOR A FREE AND PROSPEROUS SOCIETY

20th October 2026

ECMPR Pakistan held an engaging seminar for postgraduate students at Islamia College Peshawar, opening a dialogue on economic freedom, research, entrepreneurship, institutions, and human flourishing.

The seminar went beyond concepts and encouraged students to ask deeper questions:

What enables societies to prosper? What role do institutions play in expanding human opportunity? And how can research help us understand—and improve—the rules that shape our economic and social lives?

The discussion explored the importance of individual choice, property rights, voluntary exchange, entrepreneurship, rule of law, limited and effective government, and open markets in creating an environment where people can innovate, create, collaborate, and pursue better lives.

Postgraduate researchers have a unique role in this process. Their research can do more than fulfil academic requirements—it can challenge assumptions, generate evidence, influence public discourse, and contribute to better policies and institutions.

Through such academic engagements, ECMPR is investing in a culture of critical inquiry, intellectual independence, entrepreneurship, and opportunity among Pakistan's emerging scholars.

When ideas are free, inquiry is independent, and people are empowered to create, societies have greater potential to prosper.



11.ECO SOLARIZE CAMPAIGN: ADVANCING ENERGY FREEDOM THROUGH MARKET-BASED SOLUTIONS

22nd October 2026

The University of Swat's initiative to solarize its offices and departments is an encouraging example of how innovation, entrepreneurship, and public-private partnerships can contribute to a more sustainable and energy-efficient Pakistan.

ECMPR believes that environmental sustainability and economic freedom go hand in hand. Addressing Pakistan's energy challenges requires more than government spending; it calls for entrepreneurial innovation, private-sector investment, individual initiative, and policies that encourage competition and efficient use of resources.

Through its Eco Solarize Campaign, ECMPR promotes practical, market-oriented solutions to environmental challenges. The campaign seeks to encourage educational institutions, businesses, communities, and public authorities to adopt renewable energy, reduce dependence on conventional electricity sources, and make informed, cost-effective energy choices.

We appreciate the University of Swat's initiative under the leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Husnul Amin. Its solarization project offers an opportunity for other universities and institutions across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa to explore innovative partnerships and adopt solutions that improve efficiency while making better use of limited resources.

ECMPR is proud that its Eco Solarize Campaign was selected as a finalist at the Asia Liberty Forum 2025 in Jakarta, Indonesia. This recognition strengthened our commitment to advancing environmental sustainability through practical solutions, entrepreneurship, and individual initiative.

Our vision is clear: a cleaner environment, an empowered society, and a future in which innovation and economic freedom help communities prosper.

Eco Solarize: Empowering People. Promoting Innovation. Protecting Our Planet.





12.ECMPR TEAM MEETS VICE CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF MALAKAND

26th October 2026

The ECMPR Pakistan team met with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Idrees, Vice Chancellor, University of Malakand, for a productive discussion on strengthening collaboration between academia, research, entrepreneurship, and policy.

The meeting focused on creating greater opportunities for young people, innovative ideas, and evidence-based solutions that can contribute to economic and social prosperity.

ECMPR remains committed to building meaningful academic partnerships and advancing a culture of open inquiry, entrepreneurship, human dignity, and economic opportunity.



ECMPR
Voice for Right Liberty & Freedom

28th October 2026







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