After fighting a war for almost two decades in Afghanistan, the U.S. is nowhere close to winning the conflict. The key source of help and challenge is Pakistan, with whom Washington has an alignment since 2001 to fight the war on terror. However, despite investing billions of dollars in economic and military aid, Pakistan does not seem to have delivered. It is not just about a difference of opinion between the two states on the future of Afghanistan, but also Pakistan's deep-set skepticism of the U.S. Pakistan's alternative partnership with China is one of the reasons for the continued lack of cooperation from Pakistan. This talk will lay out the power of the Pakistani military that lies at the bottom of the strategic disconnect.

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