



Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي



PARLIAMENTARY
RAPID
RESPONSE
TEAM

THIRD ROUNDTABLE: SUPPORTING AFGHAN NATIONALS ON THE GROUND AND IN EXILE

A CONVERSATION WITH AFGHAN PARLIAMENTARIANS AND THEIR COUNTERPARTS



Hashoo Foundation's Afghan Refugees Settlement L-12
by Hashoo Foundation USA - Hous, TX



30 MAY 2022



14h - 15:50h CET



VIRTUAL SESSION
(VIA ZOOM)



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Since the Taliban takeover on 15 August 2021, Afghanistan's human rights and humanitarian situation has drastically deteriorated. The country has sunk into an unprecedented economic crisis, food insecurity, and a wave of violence against the civilian population, leading to the commission of new heinous crimes. According to grassroots organizations, more than half of the Afghan population is in need of humanitarian assistance to survive, and since the Government was overthrown, the civic space has shrunk again, and women's and girls' rights have been increasingly restricted. Fearing persecutions or reprisals under Taliban rule, millions of Afghans, including human rights defenders, journalists, civil society activists, judges, law enforcement officials, and politicians, have sought shelter in other countries or stayed in hiding. Refugees continue encountering many challenges, as many of them still face life threats, obstacles in obtaining their refugee status, restrictions preventing them from studying and finding a job, as well as constant discrimination that leaves them on the margins of society.

To avoid Afghanistan becoming a safe haven for perpetrators of egregious crimes, the international community must continue securing support and resources for the International Criminal Court (ICC) as the only permanent international court with jurisdiction over genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.

In light of this humanitarian catastrophe, and whereas urgent support is needed, it appears that the international community is failing to provide appropriate solutions commensurate with its commitments. This roundtable will therefore facilitate an active discussion where Members of Parliament worldwide will have the opportunity to interact with their peers, as well as with representatives and experts from the civil society, to reflect on new and concrete actions to support Afghans inside and outside the country.



14h - 14:10h - WELCOMING REMARKS

HON. KASTHURI PATTO

MP (Malaysia), PGA President, PARRT Member



14:10h - 14:45h - PANEL I: HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN: ADDRESSING THE NEEDS & ENSURING GLOBAL SUPPORT FOR WOMEN, MEN & CHILDREN & THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS

HON. MARIAM SOLAIMANKHAIL

MP (Afghanistan), PARRT Member

MR. EAMON GILMORE

EU Special Representative for Human Rights

MS. HEATHER BARR

Associate Director of the Women's Rights Division, Human Rights Watch

HON. NAZIFA YOUSUFI BEK

MP (Afghanistan), Founder of the Afghan Women's Parliament in Exile



14:45h - 15:10h - PANEL II: SITUATION OF AFGHAN REFUGEES AROUND THE WORLD: GUARANTEEING THE RIGHTS OF AFGHANS TO SEEK ASYLUM

MS. SARA ELIZABETH DILL

Partner at Anethum Global

MS. RUKHSAR AZAMEE

Member of the LEAD IMPACT Team & Human Rights Activist

MS. CHARLEMAGNE GOMEZ

Founder of Afghans in Crisis Network, Human Rights Activist



15:10h - 15:30h - PANEL III: WHAT CAN PARLIAMENTARIANS DO?

HON. RAYMONDE LAWSON

MP (Togo), PARRT Member, PGA Member

HON. ALI EHSASSI

MP (Canada), Chair of the Subcommittee on International Human Rights, PGA Board Member

MR. PETRAS AUŠTREVČIUS

MEP (Lithuania), Chair, Delegation for Relations with Afghanistan

HON. ROZAINA ADAM

MP (Maldives), Chair of the PARRT, PGA's Convenor for the DRHR Campaign

**OPEN DISCUSSION AND STRATEGIC SESSION LED BY:
DR. DAVID DONAT CATTIN, PGA SECRETARY-GENERAL**



ABOUT PGA

The Campaign for the Universality and Effectiveness of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court system promotes the Rule of Law and protects human rights by fighting impunity for the most serious international crimes, namely genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression. Since its establishment in 1998, it has advanced the ratification of/accession to the Rome Statute of the ICC by 78 countries (the most recent one in Kiribati in 2019), the ratification of the Kampala Amendments in 7 countries (the most recent one in Italy in 2022), and the adoption of legislative packages on domestic implementation of the Rome Statute in 37 countries.

The Campaign for Democratic Renewal and Human Rights, inaugurated in 2018, underpins all work of PGA's programmatic areas and is central to the realization of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, which commits governments to provide access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. As the first pillar of the Campaign, PGA launched the Parliamentary Rapid Response Team (PARRT) in May 2020. Since its inception, this unique cohort has responded nimbly, intervening when parliamentarians and human rights defenders have been at risk. In March 2021, PGA launched the Second Pillar of the Democratic Renewal and Human Rights Campaign - the "Global Parliamentary Code of Democratic Conduct."

For more information, please contact:

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