



ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ ПАРЛАМЕНТ PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
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*Committee on Foreign Affairs
in association with Delegation for relations with Afghanistan
and Delegation to Central Asia*

HIGH LEVEL CONFERENCE

AFGHANISTAN AND CENTRAL ASIA: PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF NATO/ISAF FORCES

**18 December 2013,
09:00 - 15:30
European Parliament
Brussels
Room: József Antall Building - JAN 4Q1**

Draft Programme (*speakers tbc, speaking times indicative*)

HIGH LEVEL OPENING

- 09:00-09:05 Chair's introductory remarks by Mr. **Elmar Brok**,
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
- 09:05-09:15 Conference Opening by N.N.,
Minister of Foreign Affairs, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
- 09:15-09:25 European Union perspective by Mr. **Pierre Vimont**,
Executive Secretary General, European External Action Service (EEAS)
- 09:25-09:35 Key note speech by Mr. **Anders Fogh Rasmussen**,
Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

POST-2014 AFGHANISTAN (Chair: Mr Thijs Berman)

09:35-09:40 Mr **Thijs Berman**, Chair, Delegation for relations with Afghanistan

PART I: EU-Afghanistan relations

09:40-09:50 Mr **Franz-Michael Skjold Mellbin**, Head of EU Delegation/ EUSR for Afghanistan

09:50-10:00 Prof **Steven Blockmans**, Senior Research Fellow & Head of the EU Foreign Policy Unit, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) / Professor of EU External Relations Law and Governance, University of Amsterdam: "*Assessment of EU support to Afghanistan for the last decade and lessons learnt for the future*"

10:00-10:25 Q&A session with MEPs and Reps of Afghanistan/Central Asia

PART II: Democracy, governance, human rights, stability and reconciliation

10:25-10:35 Mr **Hekmat Khalil Karzai**, Centre for Conflict and Peace Studies, Director (research perspective on security, peace and reconciliation, youth empowerment)

10:35-10:45 Dr **Saeed Parto**, Director, Afghanistan Public Policy Research Organization (APPRO) (stability, democracy, rule of law, institutional capacities, governance, anti-corruption)

10:45-10:55 Ms **Rachel Reid**, Director, Open Society Foundations, Regional Policy Initiative, and Senior Policy Advisor, Afghanistan and Pakistan. (women's rights, other human rights, peace and reconciliation process)

10:55-11:20 Q&A session with MEPs and Reps of Afghanistan/Central Asia

PART III: Development challenges

11:20-11:25 Ms **Eva Joly**, Chair, Committee on Development

11:25-11:35 World Bank (development assistance, infrastructure development, economic relations)

11:35-11:45 Mr **Michael Keating**, Senior Consulting Fellow, Asia Programme, Chatham House, the Royal Institute of International Affairs (development aid, governance, anti-corruption, democracy)

11:45-12:05 Q&A session with MEPs and Reps of Afghanistan/Central Asia

(buffet lunch served outside the venue)

IMPACT ON CENTRAL ASIAN COUNTRIES (Chair: Mr Paolo Bartolozzi)

13:30-13:35 Mr **Paolo Bartolozzi**, Chair, Delegation to Central Asia

PART I: Central Asian perspectives

13:35-13:40 H.E. Mr **Kakadjan Mommadov**, Ambassador of Turkmenistan (cross-border relations, regional cooperation, assistance)

13:40-13:45 H.E. Dr. **Soliev Rustamjon Abdulloevich**, Ambassador of Tajikistan (cross-border relations, regional cooperation, assistance)

13:45-13:50 H.E. Mr. **Vladimir Norov**, Ambassador of Uzbekistan (cross-border relations, regional cooperation, assistance)

13:50-13:55 H.E. Mr. **Almaz Khamzayev**, Ambassador of Kazakhstan (bilateral relations, regional cooperation, assistance)

13:55-14:00 Mr **Tolon Turganbayev**, Chargé d'Affaires of Kyrgyz Republic (bilateral relations, regional cooperation, assistance)

14:00-14:20 Q&A session with MEPs and Reps of Afghanistan/Central Asia

PART II: Regional security and stability

14:20-14:25 Mr. **Arnaud Danjean**, Chair, Security and Defence Subcommittee

14:25-14:35 Ms **Patricia Flor**, EU Special Representative for Central Asia (EU perspectives and role)

14:35-14:45 Mr **James Appathurai**, NATO Special Representative for Caucasus and Central Asia (geo-strategic situation, perspectives for regional stability, neighbourhood)

14:45-14:55 Ambassador Dr **Beate Maeder-Metcalf**, Vice President and Director of Regional Security, EastWest Institute (stability, regional security issues, geopolitical strategic location and role, eradication of opium cultivation)

14:55-15:05 Mr **Jos Boonstra**, EUCAM Director/ Senior Researcher, FRIDE / Ms **Marlène Laruelle**, Director of the Central Asia Program (CAP) of the Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies (IERES), George Washington University/ Associate Researcher, FRIDE: "*Assessment of the impact on the Central Asia region of the 2014 withdrawal of NATO/ISAF forces from Afghanistan*"

15:05-15:25 Q&A session with MEPs and Reps of Afghanistan/Central Asia

15:25-15:30 Conference conclusions by Mr. **Elmar Brok**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

The meeting will be web streamed online:
<http://www.europarltv.europa.eu/ParliamentLive.asp>

(21/11/2013)