



Call for peace agreement in Afghanistan

29.7.2021

[Meetings, agendas](#)



On 15 July 2021, Members of the European Parliament under the leadership of the Chair of the Delegation for relations with Afghanistan, Petras Auštrevičius, and Members of the National Assembly of Afghanistan, held the 6th EU-Afghanistan Interparliamentary Meeting, focusing on the current developments in Afghanistan.

Representatives of both sides expressed their deep concern about the instable situation in the country. Thereby, the European Parliament is particularly mindful about safeguarding the principles of human rights, democracy and the rule of law, as well as security, for a viable future in Afghanistan.

Deteriorating security situation

Against the background of a rapidly deteriorating security situation, Members discussed also about the future of the peace process after the foreign troops withdrawal.

In [the joint statement on 15 July](#), Chair Petras Auštrevičius and Head of the Human Rights Committee of the National Assembly of Afghanistan, Naheed Farid, deplored the violent actions of the Taliban. They reiterated that the Taliban's safe haven in Pakistan should be disrupted and urged Pakistan to convince the Taliban to enter meaningful peace negotiations.

Western support needed

The Afghan side pointed on the frustration, uncertainty and the lack of motivation among the Afghan population and a strong feeling of being abandoned and betrayed by the Western allies after the US and NATO troop withdrawal prevails. The Afghan Members sent a strong plea to continue financing the security forces, as there is a need for training and equipment, notably air support and intelligence.

They also requested the EU to stick to its core principles, such as Human rights and Democracy, to continue the development process and to help their country by the exerting diplomatic pressure on Pakistan and Iran.

Increasing women's involvement

Another subject at the heart of discussions was the role of women in the peace process and the future engagements with the EU. All members agreed that an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process should include a role for women and ensure the preservation of their rights.

In her key notes, Acting Minister of Women's Affairs, Ms. Hasina Safi, underlined the achievements for women during the last two decades, notably in the area of education and the need to build upon these gains. The parliamentary representatives reiterated the importance of having women involved in the peace process, namely in the political life of the country and in future engagements with the EU.

More information:

[D-AF website](#)

[Joint press statement 6th EU-Afghanistan IPM](#)

[Back to Announcements](#)