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DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH AFGHANISTAN

The Chair

09-10-2023

STATEMENT

Earthquake in Afghanistan: The European Parliament's Afghanistan Delegation express solidarity to Afghan people

The Chair of the EP Delegation for relations with Afghanistan (D-AF), [Petras Auštrevičius](#) (Renew, LT) issued the following statement today:

“As Chair of the EP Delegation for relations with Afghanistan, I would like to convey my deep sadness by the loss of life and devastation caused by the deadly calamity that touched Herat area on Saturday. Our thoughts are for the more than 1000 people that have been killed, the immense number of injured still unknown, and their families”.

The earthquake comes at a time when Afghanistan is hit by one of the most severe humanitarian crisis and several natural catastrophes causing starvation, insecurity and displacements. Under the Taliban regime, the population suffer a total economic collapse of the Country, diminished public services, including medical and educational services. The citizens are more than ever being exposed to major adversities.

The European Parliament's Afghanistan Delegation stands in solidarity with the people of Afghanistan and extends deepest sympathy particularly to those in the affected area of Herat who have experienced the damage and destruction first-hand.

We praise the EU prompt response enabling the EU funded United Nations agencies, the non-governmental organizations and the International Committee of the Red Cross to use their EU funding to provide urgent assistance to the people in Herat. Also, on the day of the earthquake already 31st EU humanitarian flight landed in Kabul bringing 100 tonnes of medical supplies. More of the EU support for those affected is underway.

The Delegation calls for a sound joint international action so to provide the necessary assistance needed to relief the Afghan citizens.

Further information

[Profile of Petras Auštrevičius \(Renew, LT\)](#)

[European Parliament's Delegation for relations with Afghanistan \(D-AF\)](#)