

**Question for written answer E-002737/2020
to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs
and Security Policy**

Rule 138

Clare Daly

Subject: Afghanistan deal: Don't trade away women's rights

Afghan women have been working to build peace for decades, fighting for basic rights and for a seat at the table in talks between the United States and the Taliban.

Despite the significant progress made in women's political participation in Afghanistan, Afghan women continue to face huge obstacles in representation. History has shown that women and minorities stand to lose the most from any deal that is made behind closed doors and by a room full of men.

Afghan women are desperate for an end to the violence and a durable peace, but they fear negotiators will trade away their rights for a deal. More than 40 Afghan civil society organisations from across the country have released an open letter calling for 'an Afghan-owned, Afghan-led, and Afghan-maintained peace'.

1. Considering that preserving the constitutional rights of women and all Afghan citizens must be a non-negotiable demand on the agenda of every political party and group, has the EU called for women to be included in the negotiations?
2. What has the European External Action Service (EEAS) done to ensure that elected Afghan representatives lead the negotiations?
3. What is the EEAS doing to preserve women's rights as enshrined in the current constitution?