

Priority question for written answer P-003940/2021

to the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Rule 138

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Subject: The evacuation of local European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan personnel

The EU and its Member States have been active in various roles in Afghanistan over the last twenty years, and have employed local Afghan people for different missions. Though the evacuation of Afghan personnel that have supported the military mission is ongoing, the personnel that have supported the European Union Police Mission in Afghanistan (Eupol) risk being forgotten.

Media reports warn about a lack of coordination in the identification and evacuation of local personnel who have worked for Eupol. Additionally, there is uncertainty on whether the EU or individual Member States are responsible for these local personnel. The people employed by the EU should have the same opportunity to be evacuated as the people who have worked for a Member State mission.

1. Can the Commission/European External Action Service (EEAS) clarify who is responsible for the identification of local Afghan personnel employed by the Eupol mission: the European Union or its Member States?
2. Has the Commission/EEAS identified how many local personnel have worked for Eupol in Afghanistan, and is the Commission in contact with these people and their families regarding their possible evacuation?
3. How will the Commission/EEAS ensure that local personnel receive the necessary papers and assurances from an EU Member State in order to reach the airport in Kabul for evacuation and subsequent hosting in a Member State?